

# curl



## The state of curl 2020



**Growth and size**

**Quality and testing**

**Commits**

**Newcomers and oldies**

**Releases**

**Activity**

**Vulnerabilities**

**Users' view**

**Money**

**The last 12 months**

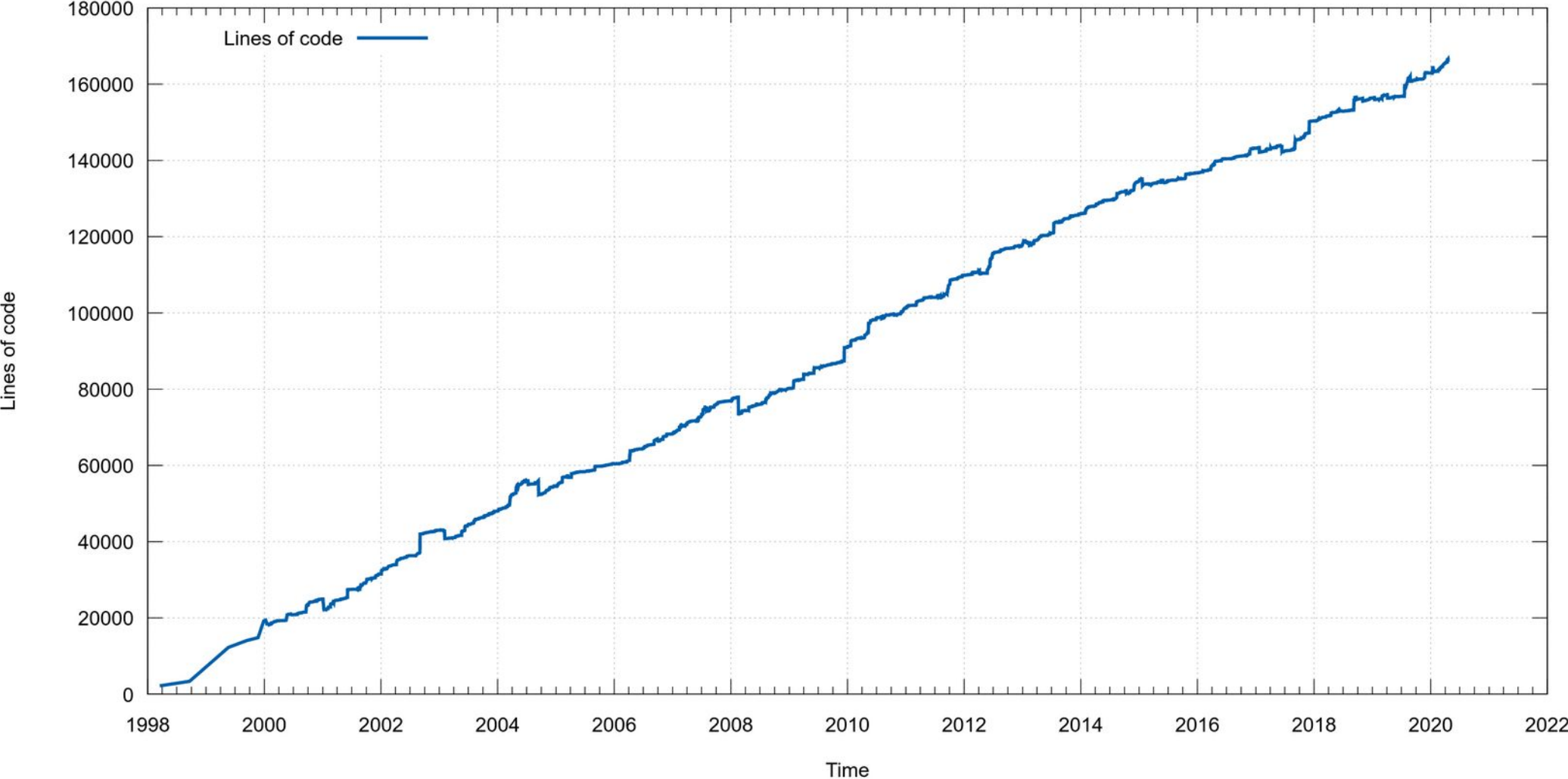
**Less Good**

**My role**

**Future**

# Growth and size

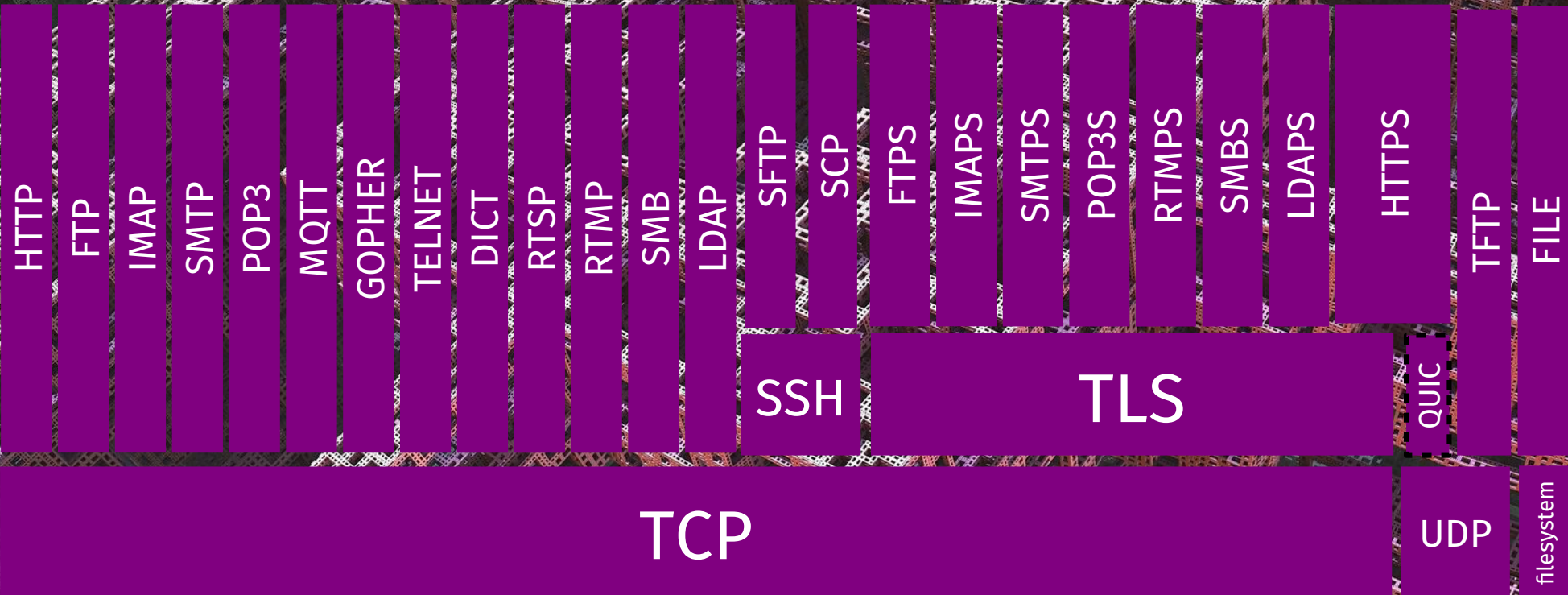
# Lines of code



**Is 165K LOC a lot?**

# 25 transfer protocols

libcurl



# 32 third party dependencies

libcurl

URL parser

winidn

libidn2

Name resolver

c-ares

HTTPS

- OpenSSL
- libressl
- boringssl
- NSS
- GnuTLS
- Secure Transport
- BearSSL
- Schannel
- wolfSSL
- mbedtls
- gskit
- Mesalink
- AmiSSL

HTTP

IMAP

SMTP

POP3

SFTP

SCP

LDAP

RTMP

SSH

libssh

libssh2

wolfSSH

OpenLDAP

WinLDAP

librtmp

HTTP/3

quiche

nghttp3

ngtcp2

HTTP/2

nghttp2

HTTP/1

cookies

libpsl

compression

libz

brotli

authentication

winspi

Heimdal

MIT kerberos

I/O layer

# 72 operating systems

## libcurl

Blackberry Tablet OS	Sailfish OS	UnixWare	Illumos	AIX	Mac OS 9	Windows CE	vxWorks	NuttX
ipadOS	SCO Unix	Linux	Windows	macOS	FreeBSD	MS DOS	z/OS	WebOS
PlayStation Portable	RISC OS	NetBSD	OpenBSD	VMS	Tru64	Haiku	UNICOS	Tizen
Mbed	FreeRTOS	Android	iOS	Blackberry 10	Integrity	MINIX	OS21	Cygwin
ReactOS	ChromeOS	Cell OS	HP-UX	ucLinux	IRIX	OS/2	MPE/iX	NCR MP-RAS
SunOS	Hurd	OS/400	Solaris	Symbian	AmigaOS	Netware	SINIX-Z	Syllable OS
Lineage OS	Plan 9	Ultrix	TPF	BeOS	eCOS	QNX	NonStop OS	tvOS
Garmin OS	Genode	DragonFly BSD	Nintendo Switch	Fuchsia	Serenity	Redox	Hardened BSD	FreeDOS



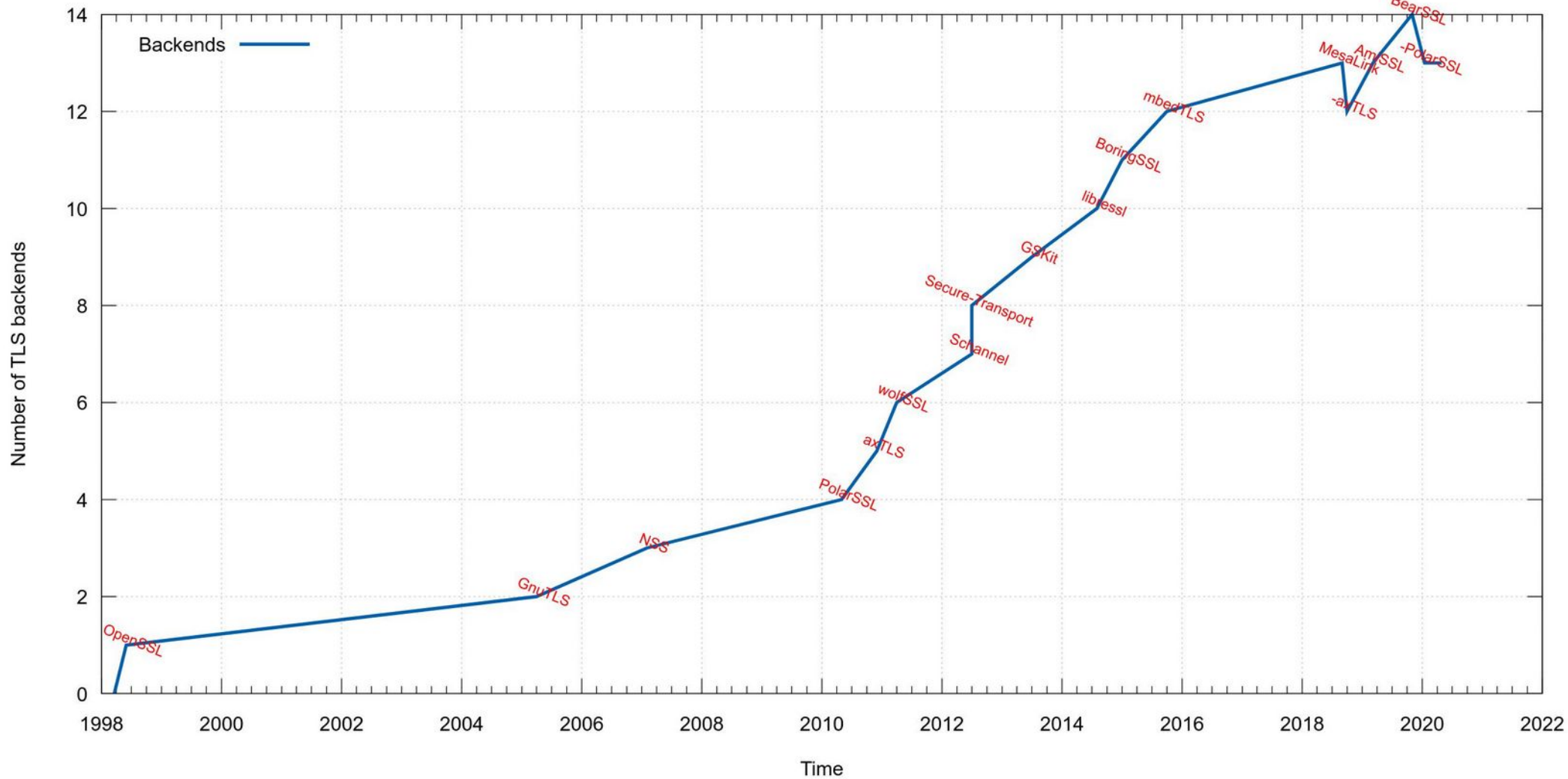
# 20 CPU architectures

## libcurl

x86	PowerPC	ARM	MIPS	RISC-V
SPARC	m68k	POWER	OpenRISC	Cell
s390	Nios	SH4	HP-PA	ARC
Itanium	Alpha	MicroBlaze	VAX	Xtensa

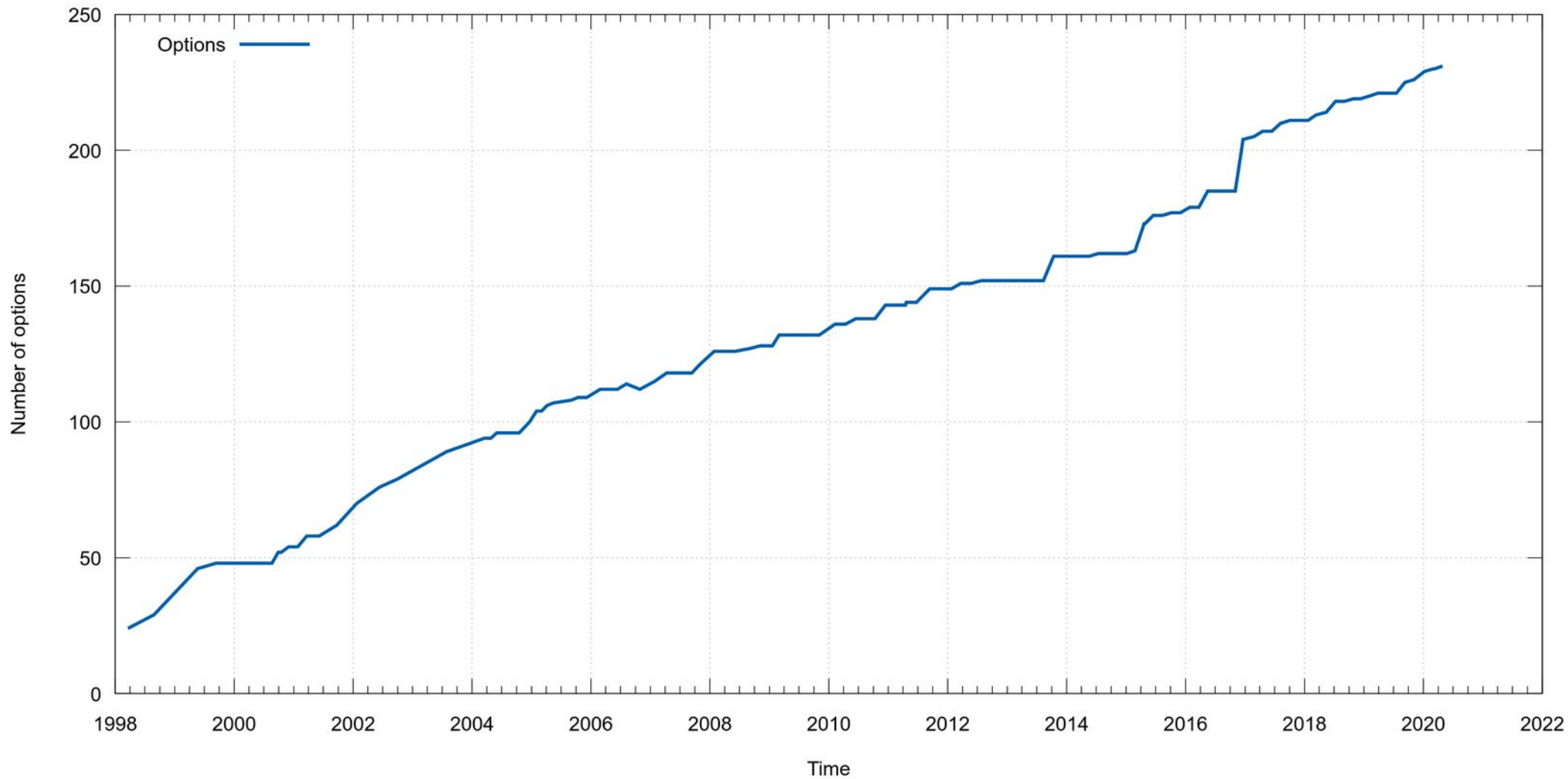
# Supported TLS backends

@bagder



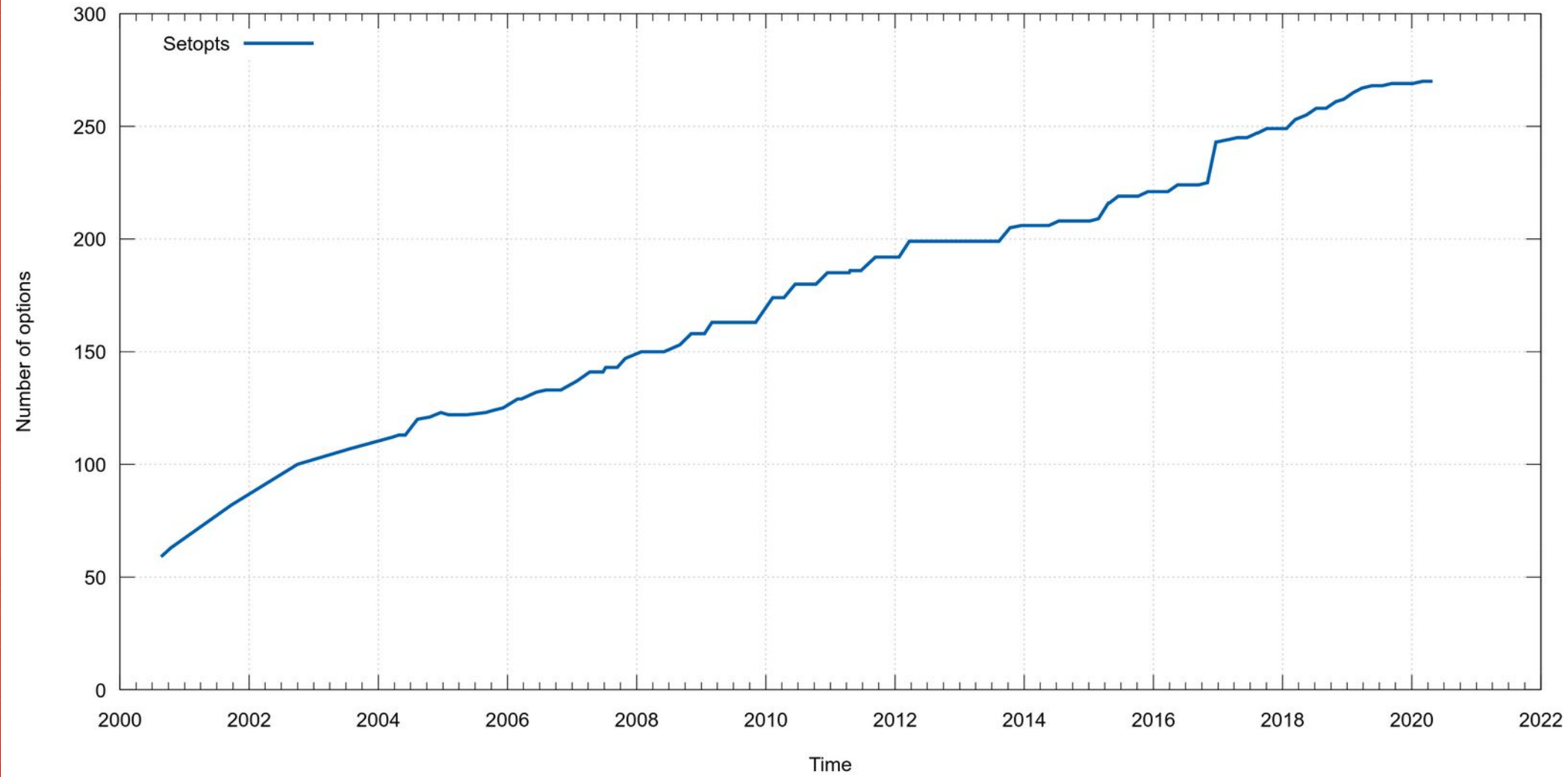
# Command line options

@bagder



# easy setopt options

@bagder



# Quality and testing

# C!

Efficient and *portable*!

Some security problems could be avoided using something else

Lots of “reach” would then also be avoided

Mitigations: readable code, reviews, tests, fuzzing, static code analyzing

# Coverity on curl – fixed defects

Apr 23, 2020

Last Analyzed

172,154

Lines of Code Analyzed

0.00

Defect Density

# OSS-Fuzz

Basically flatlined the last year – nothing new is reported.

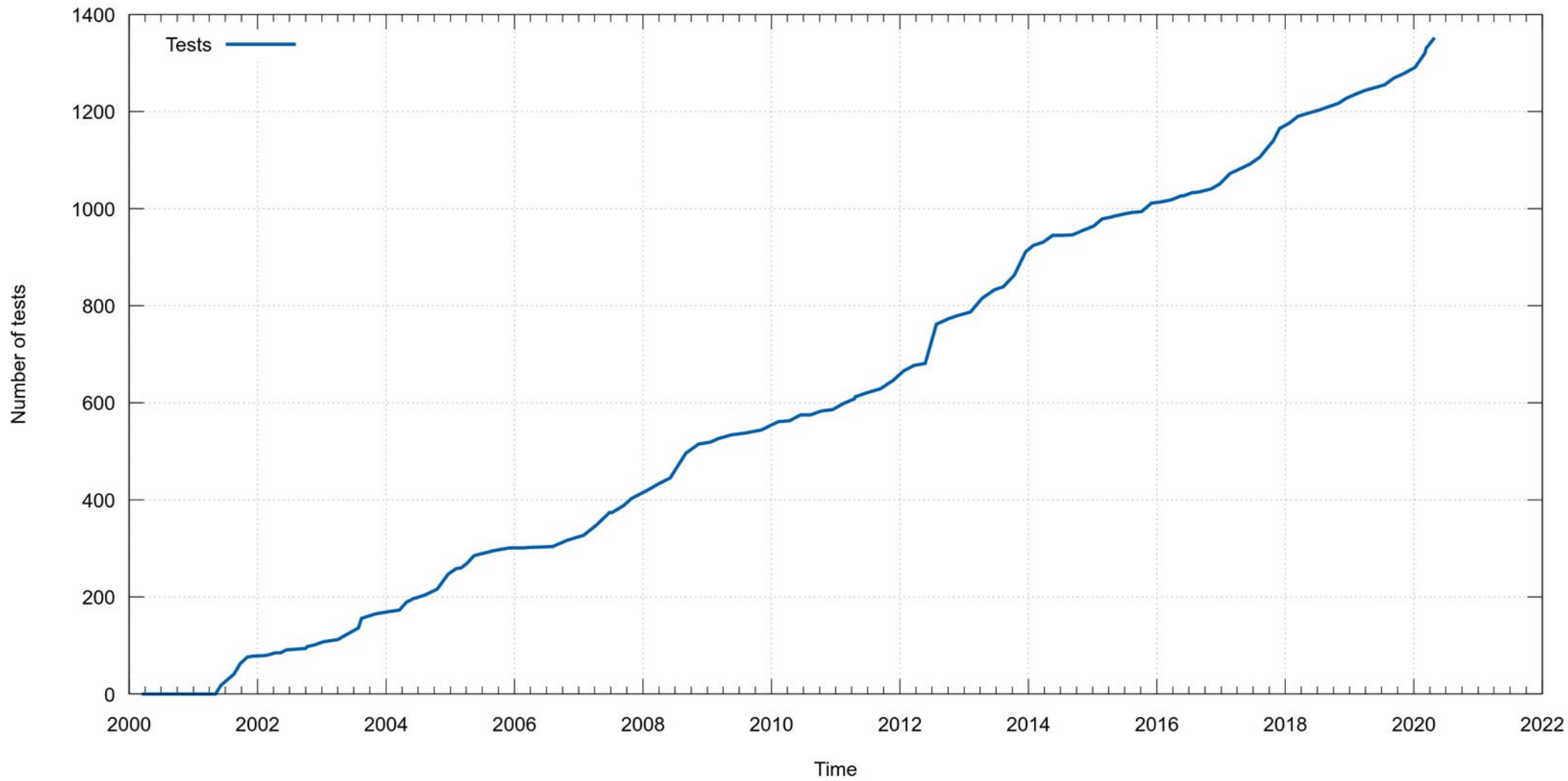
CI-Fuzz runs a little fuzzing on every commit / PR

We need more entry points to get more out of fuzzers



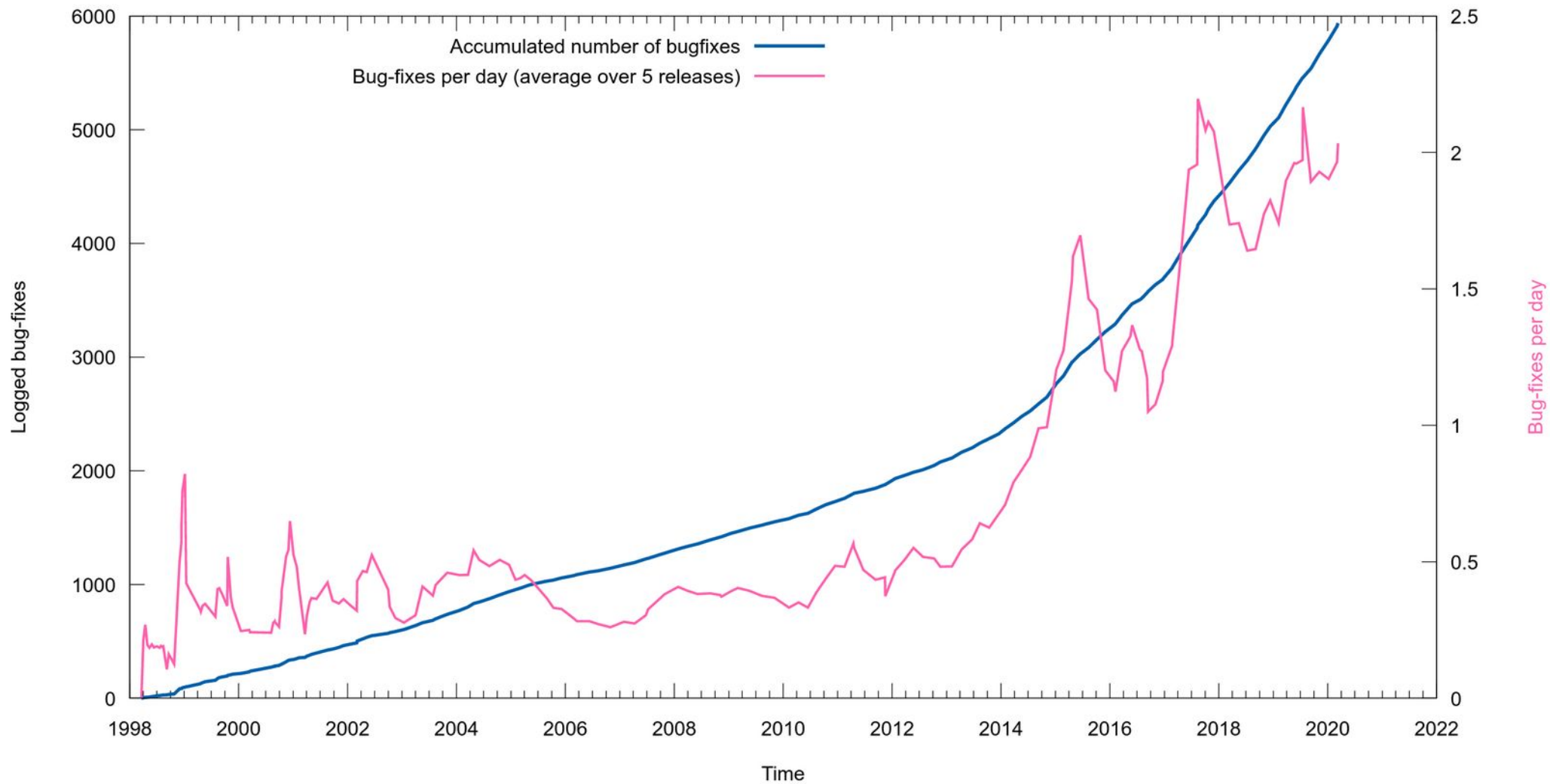
# Test cases

@bagder



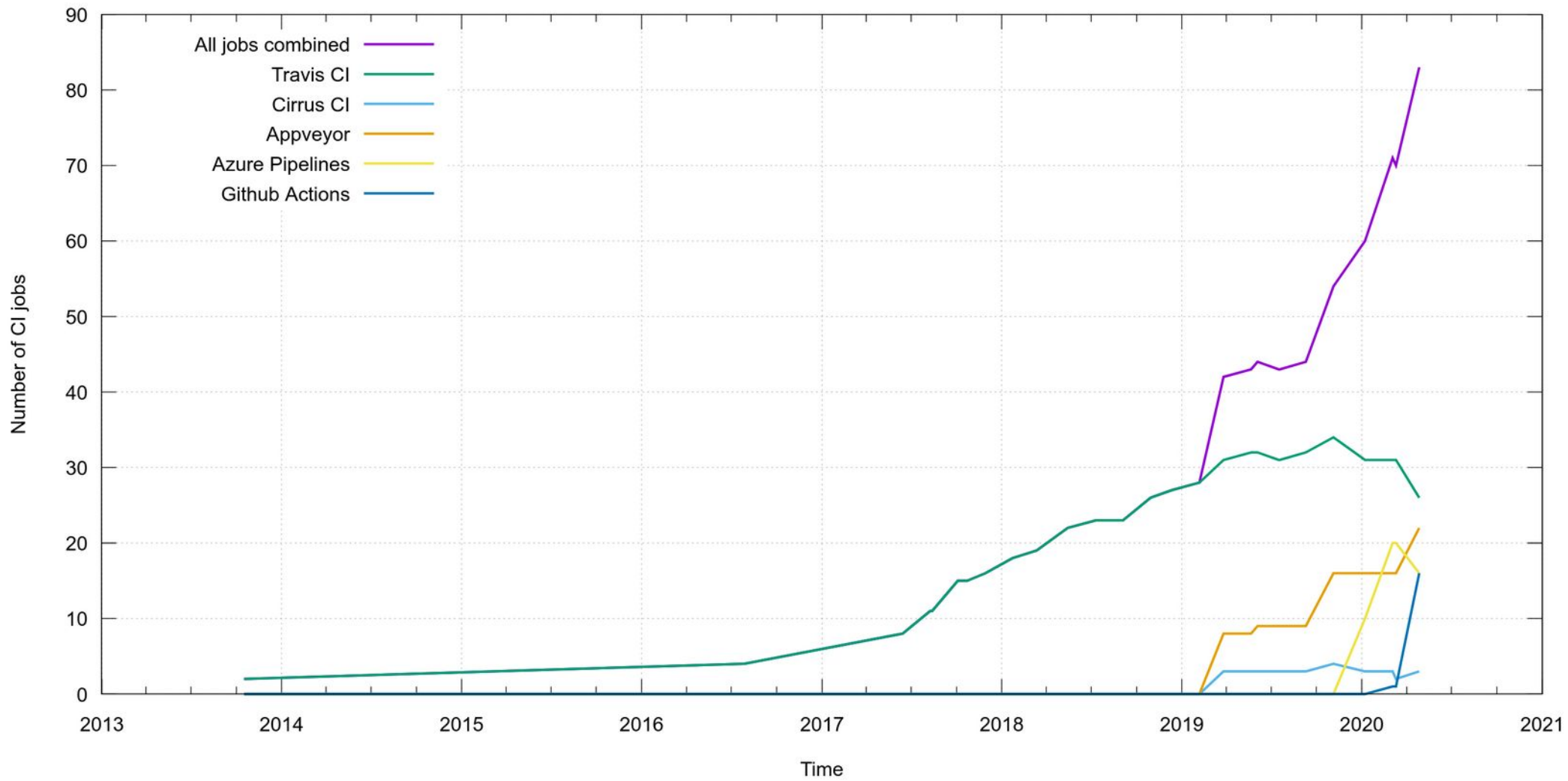
# Bug-fixes

@bagder



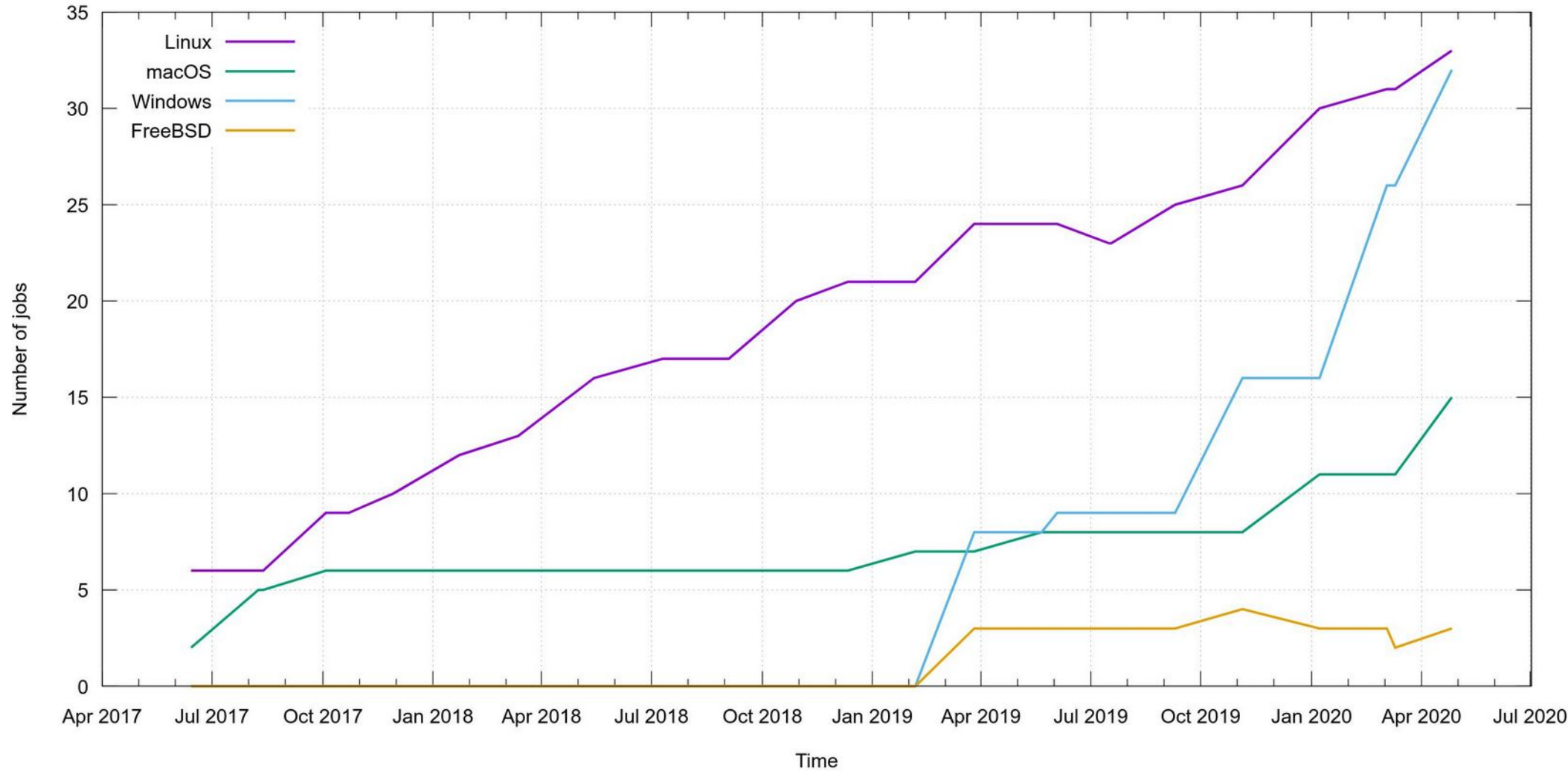
# CI jobs

@bagder



# CI jobs per platform

@bagder



# Test coverage

Good to know, hard to measure. We've given up for now

Was 72 - 78% on flaky coveralls.io

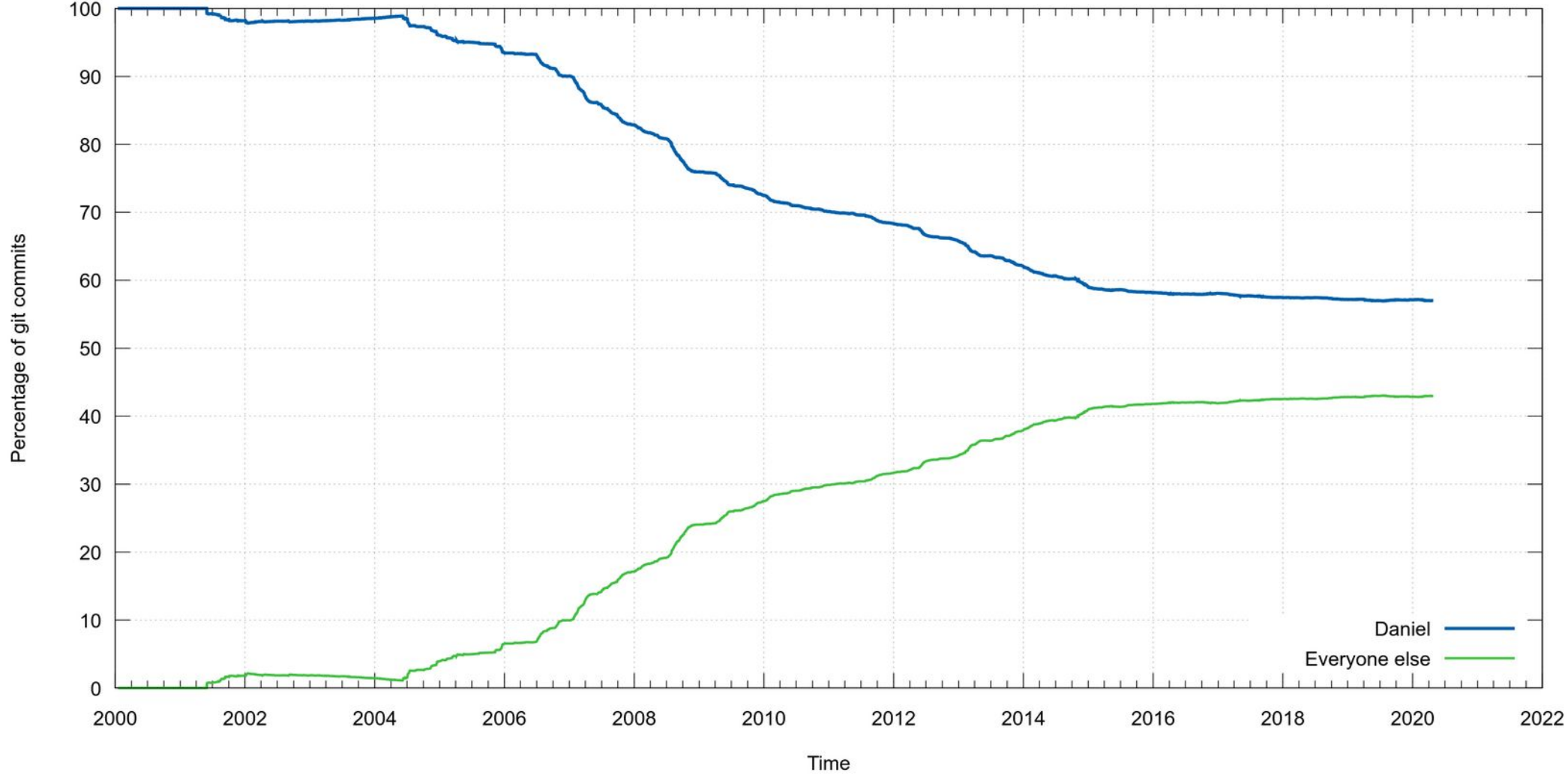
For a single TLS - SSH - resolver - config setup!

Some tests too slow for coverage runs in the cloud (torture)

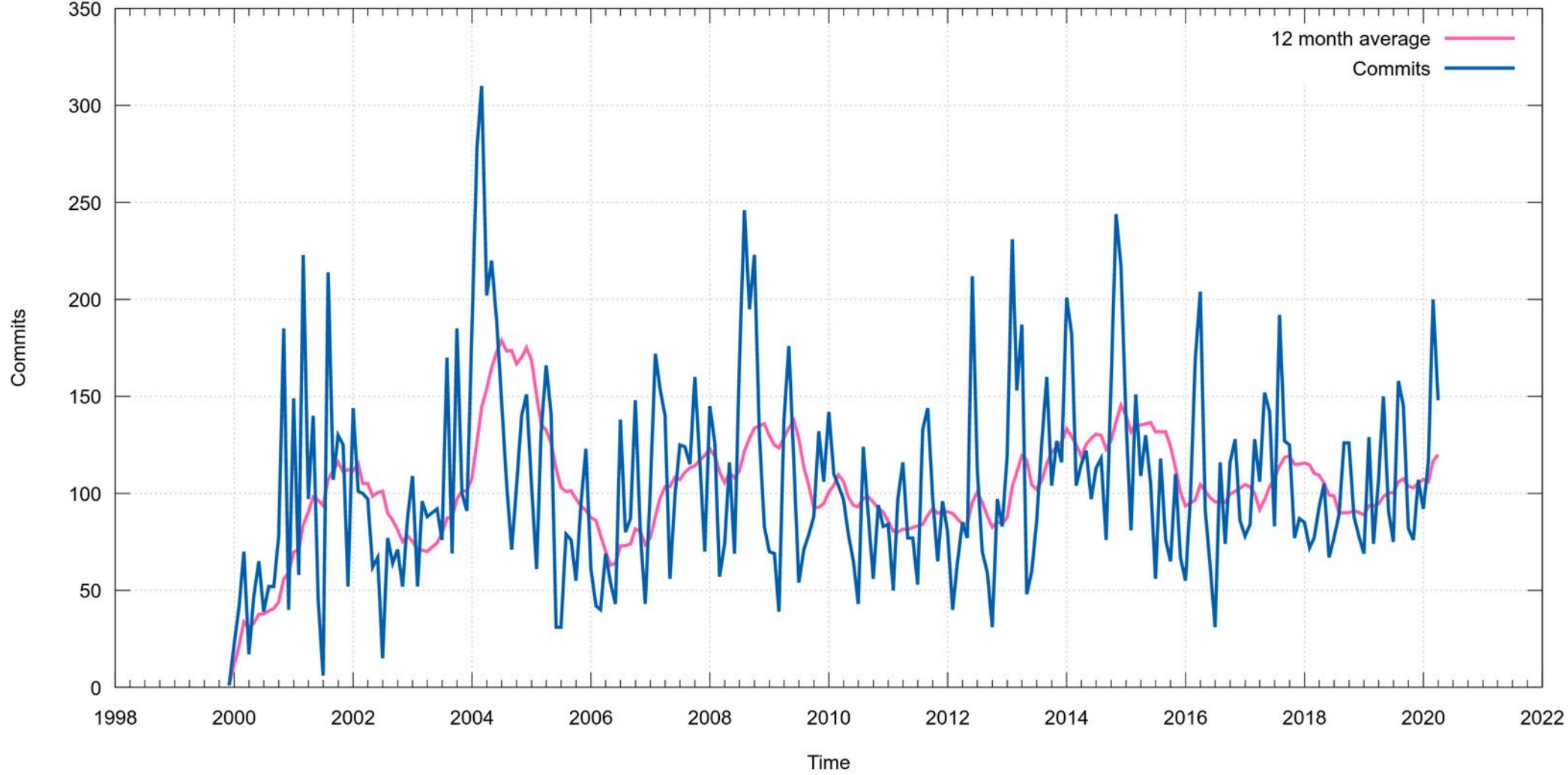
Some code paths still hard to test with existing test suite

# Commits, frequency and whom

# Daniel's share of the total commits



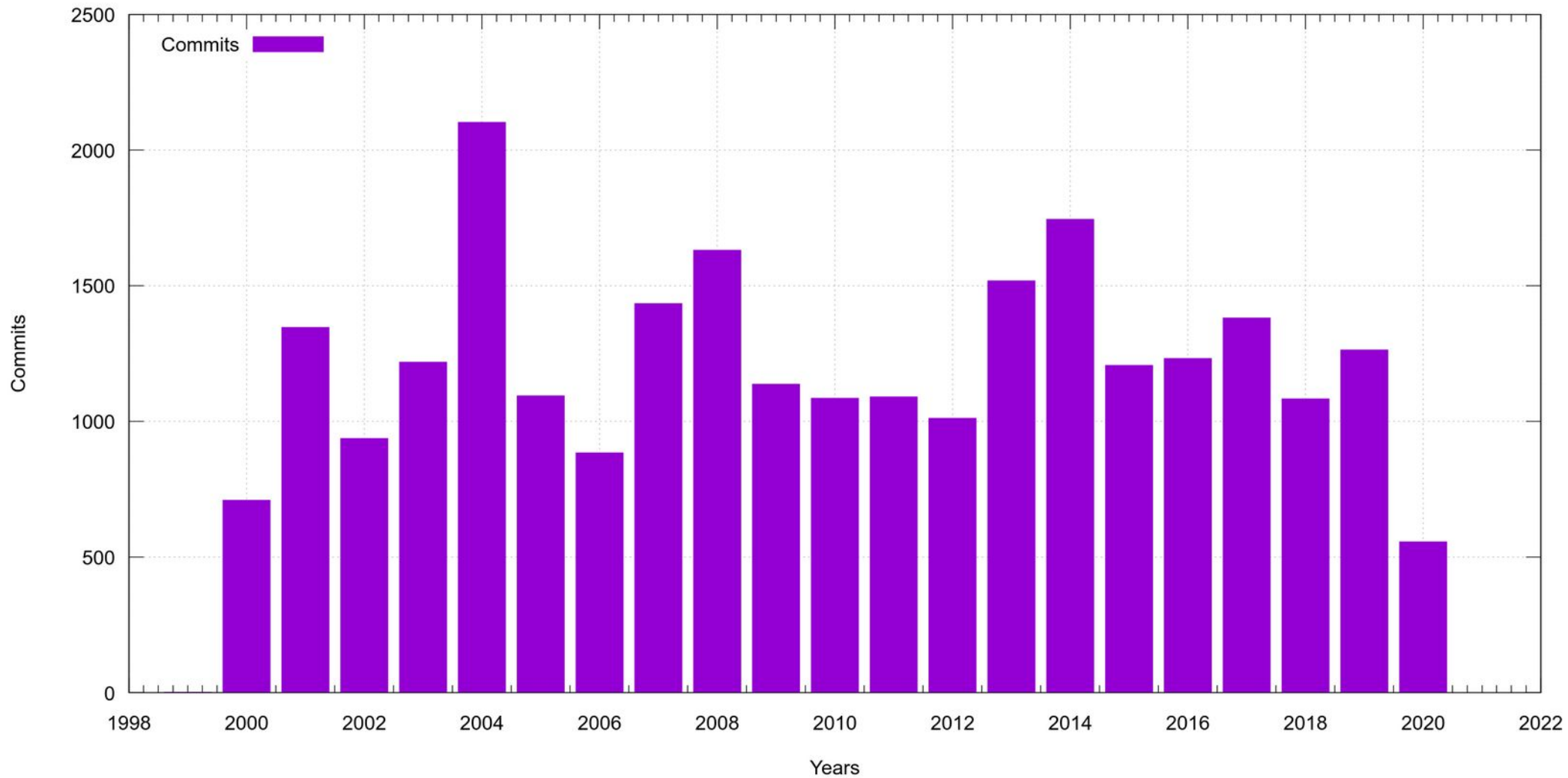
# Commits per month



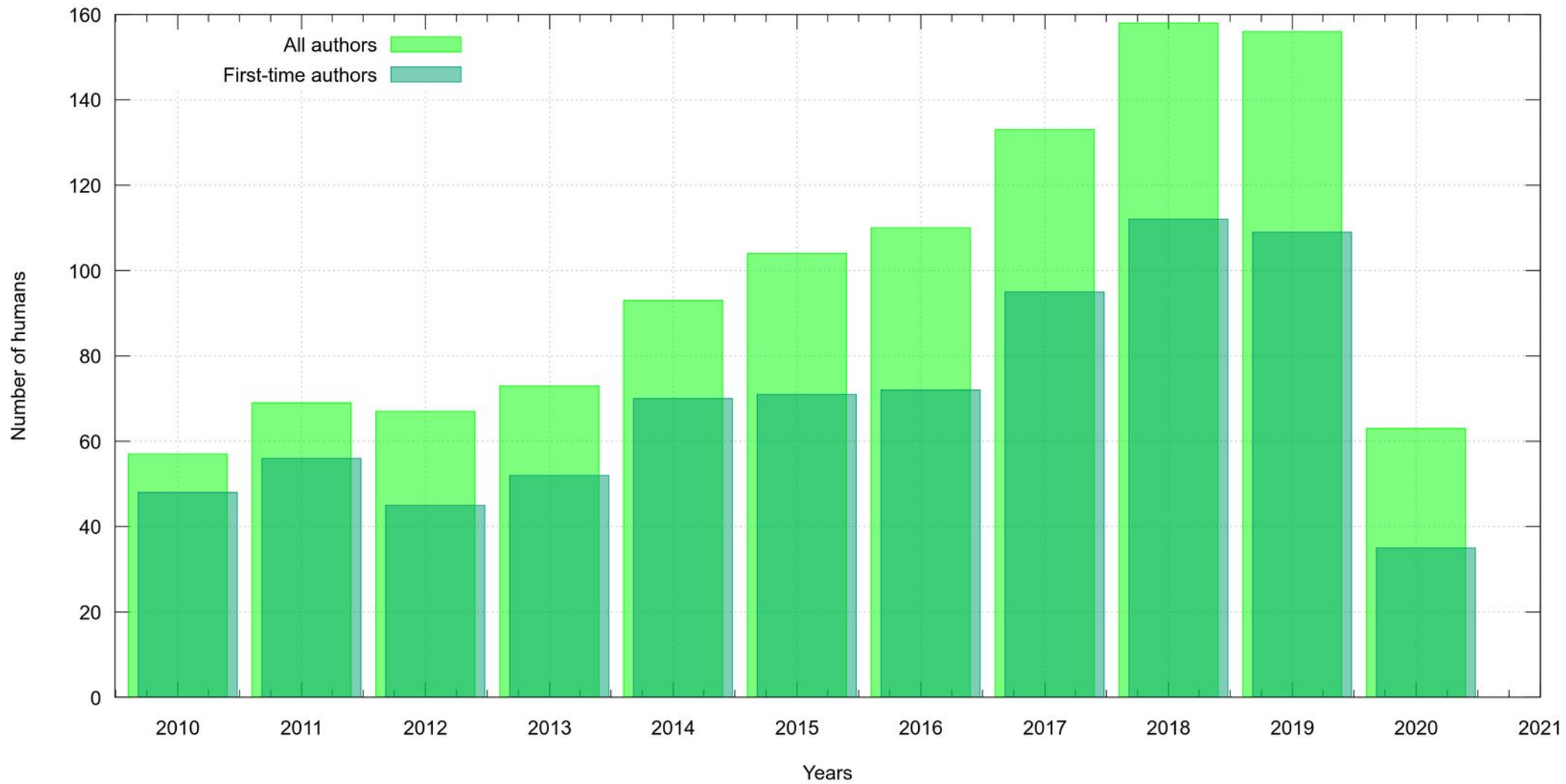


# Commits per year

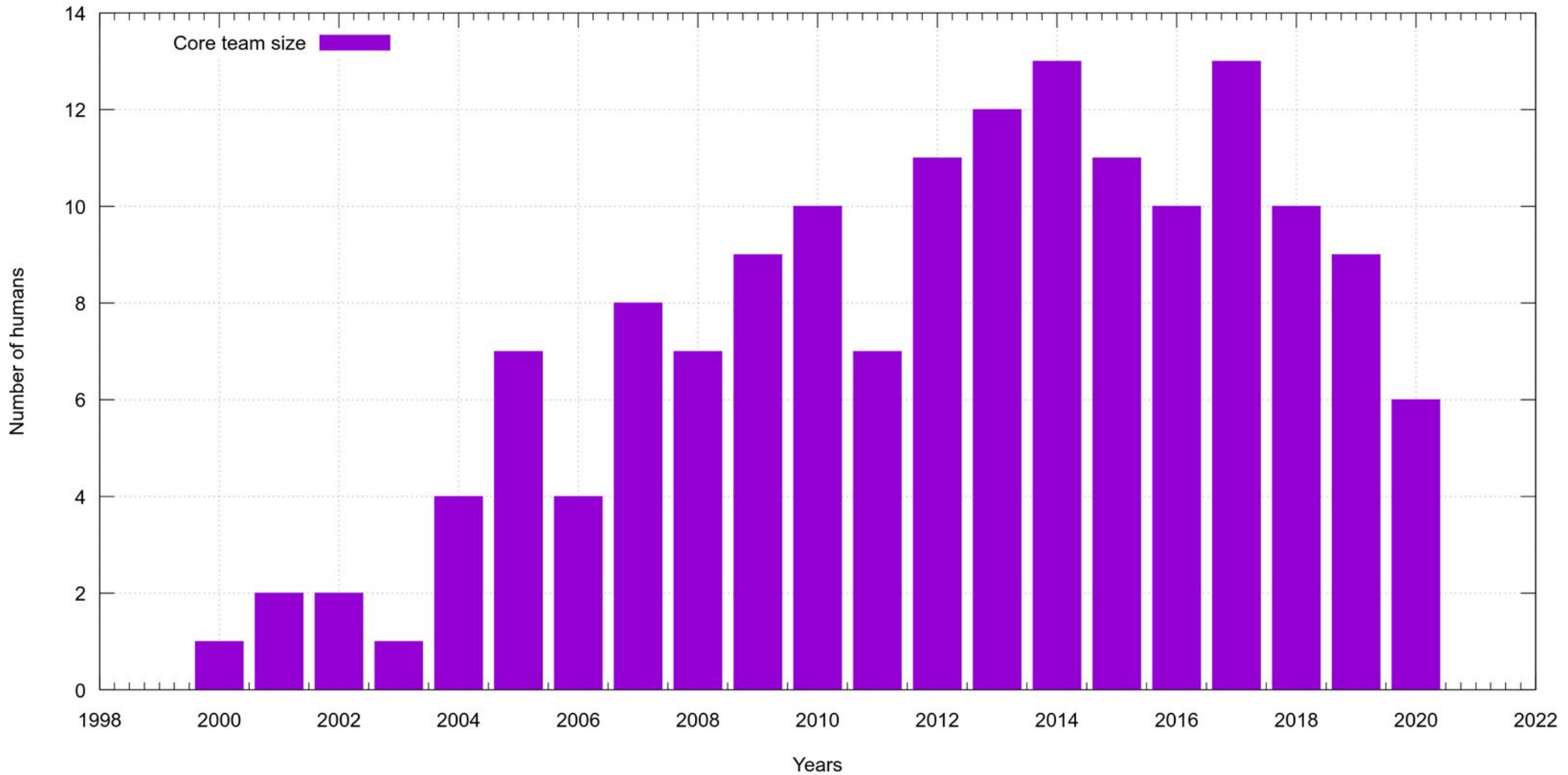
@bagder



# Commit authors per year



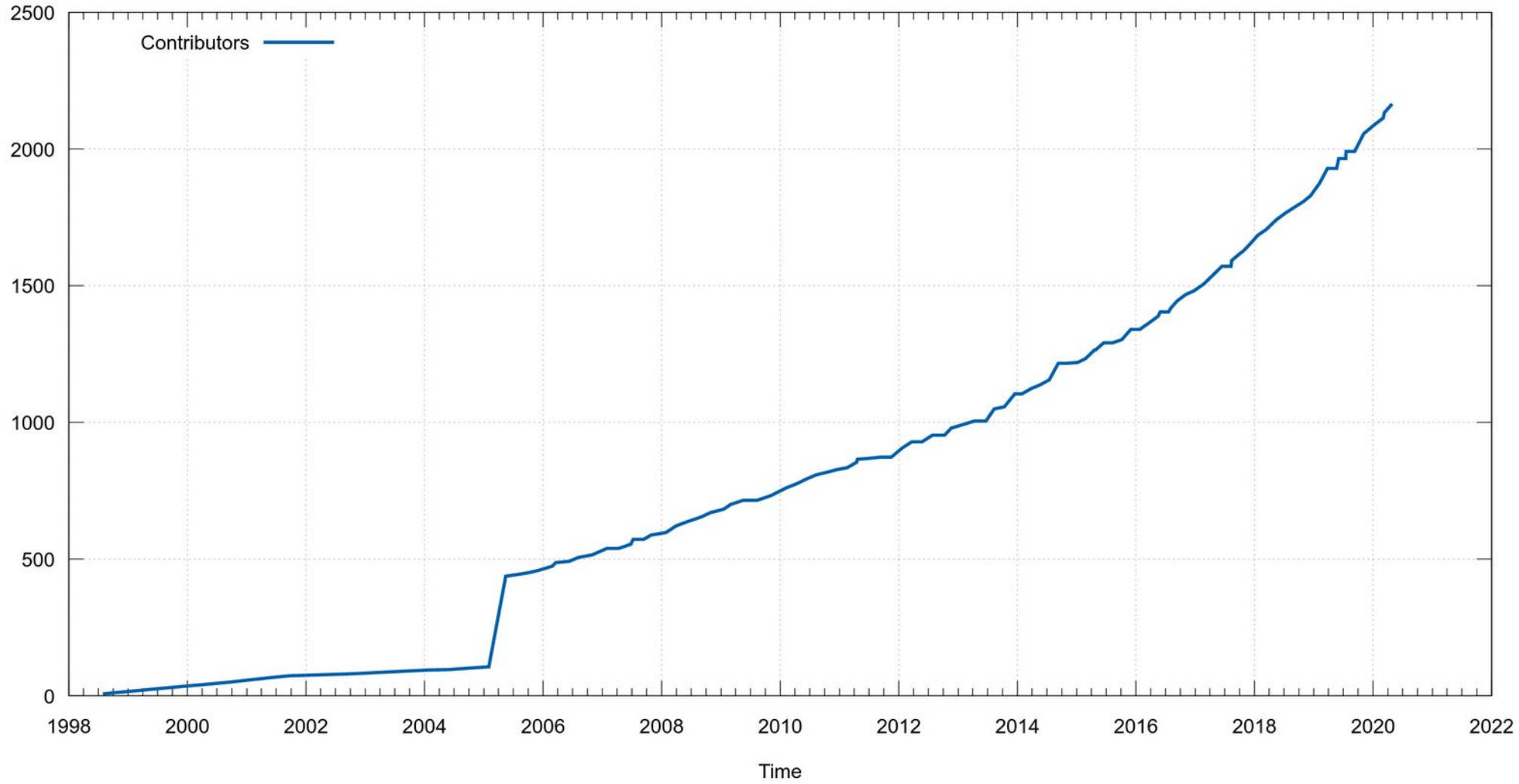
# Size of the core team per year, number of persons with 10 commits or more



# Newcomers and oldies

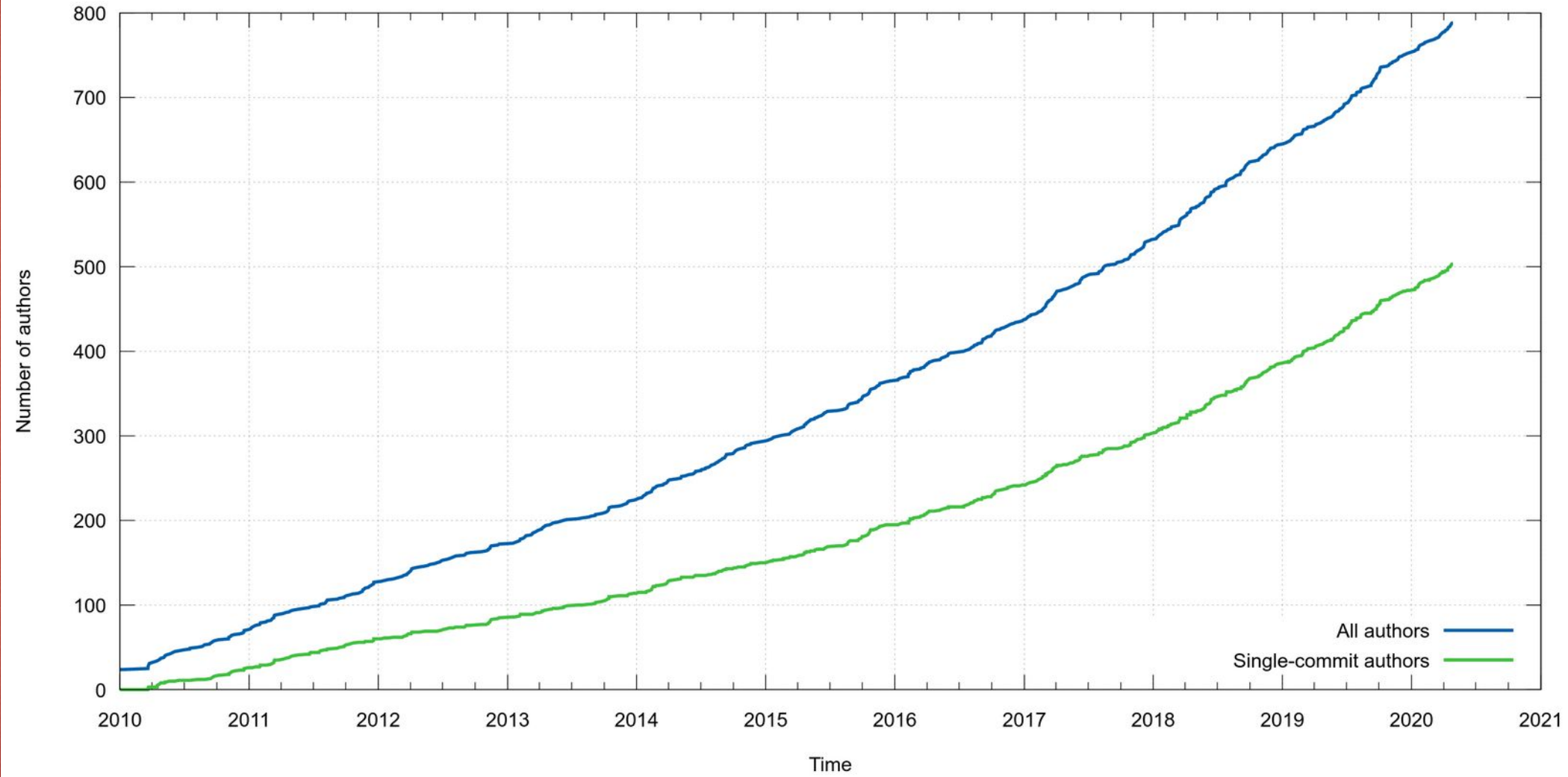
# Contributors

@bagder

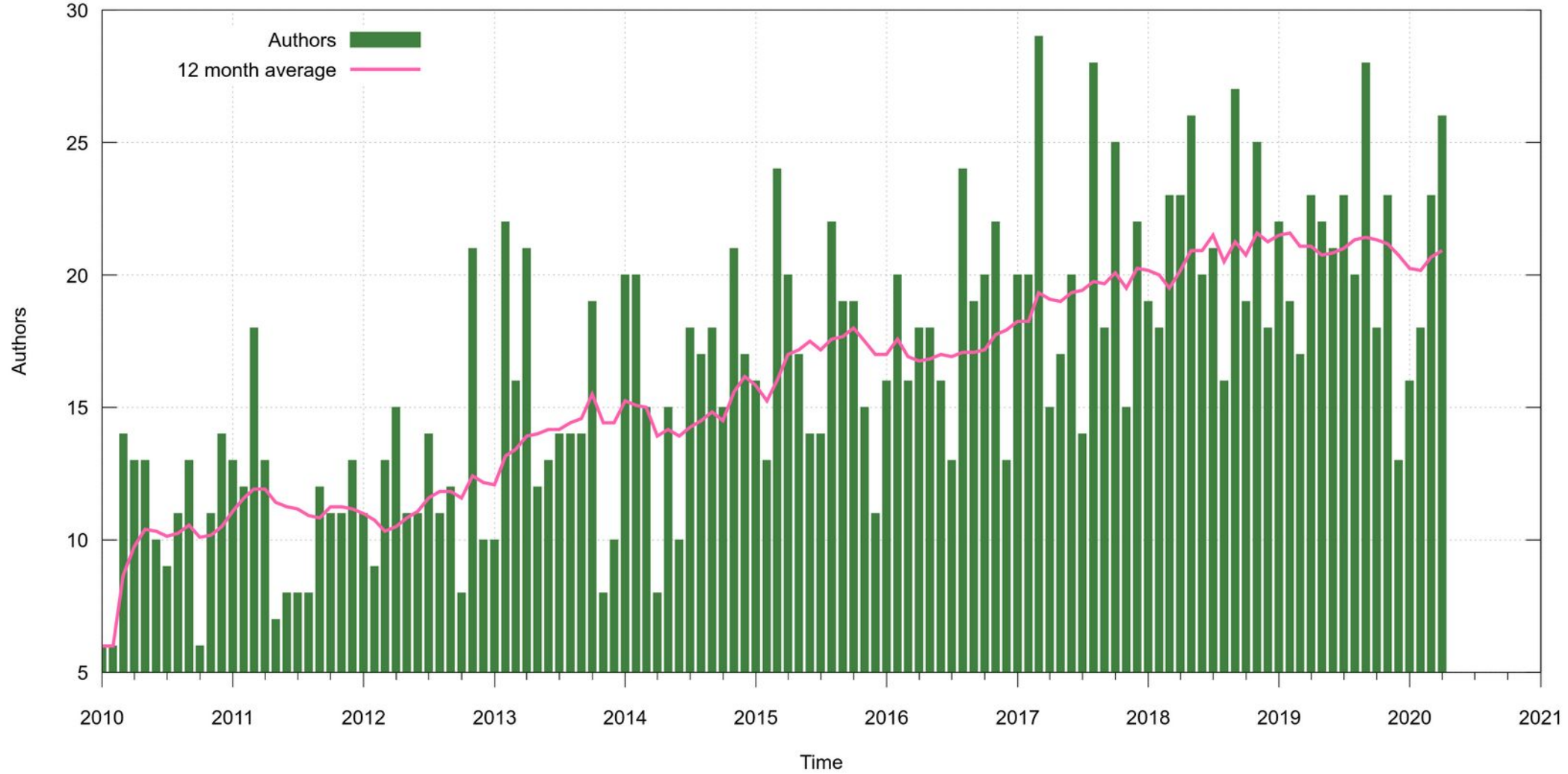


# Commit authors

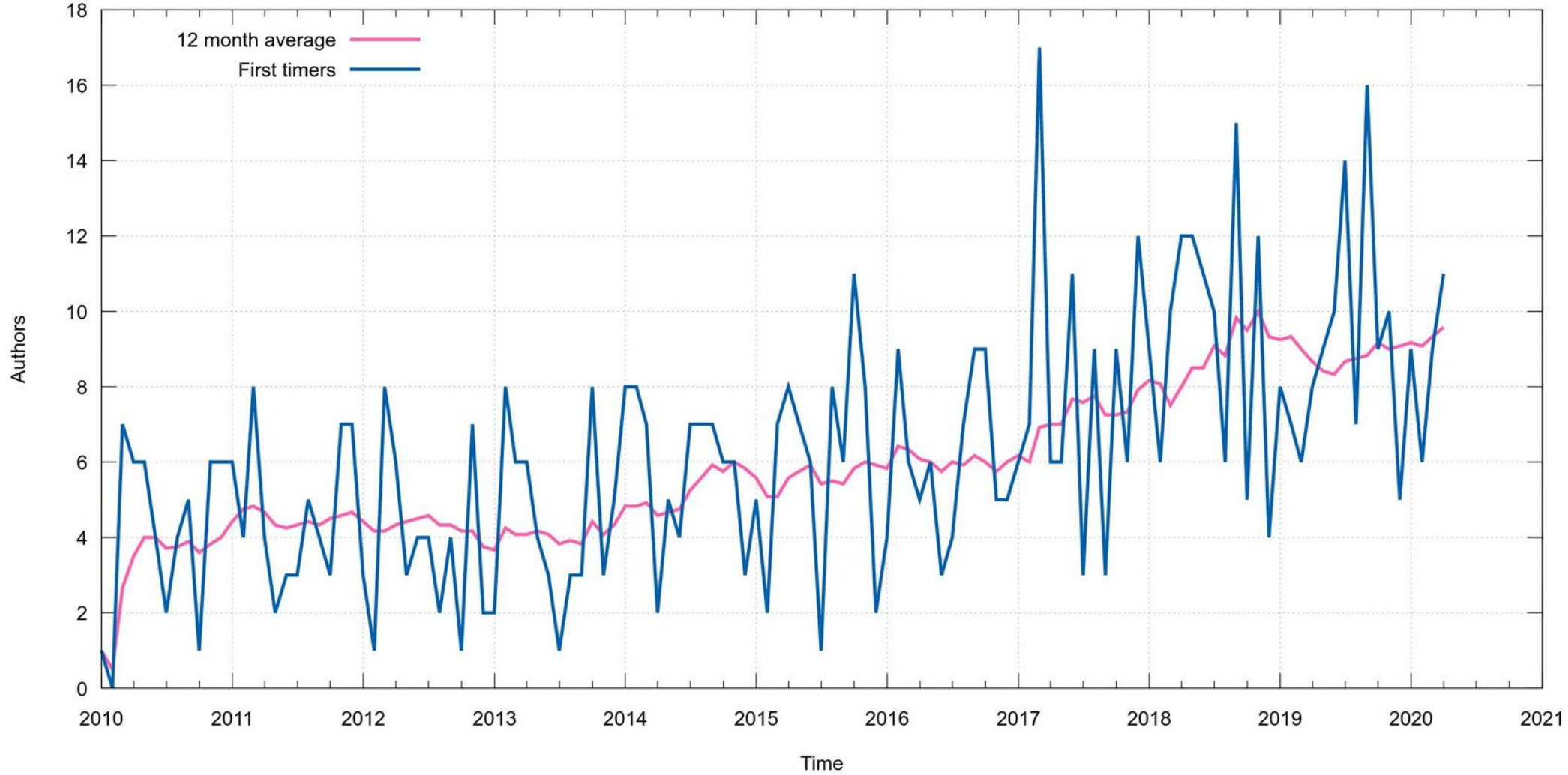
@bagder



# Authors per month

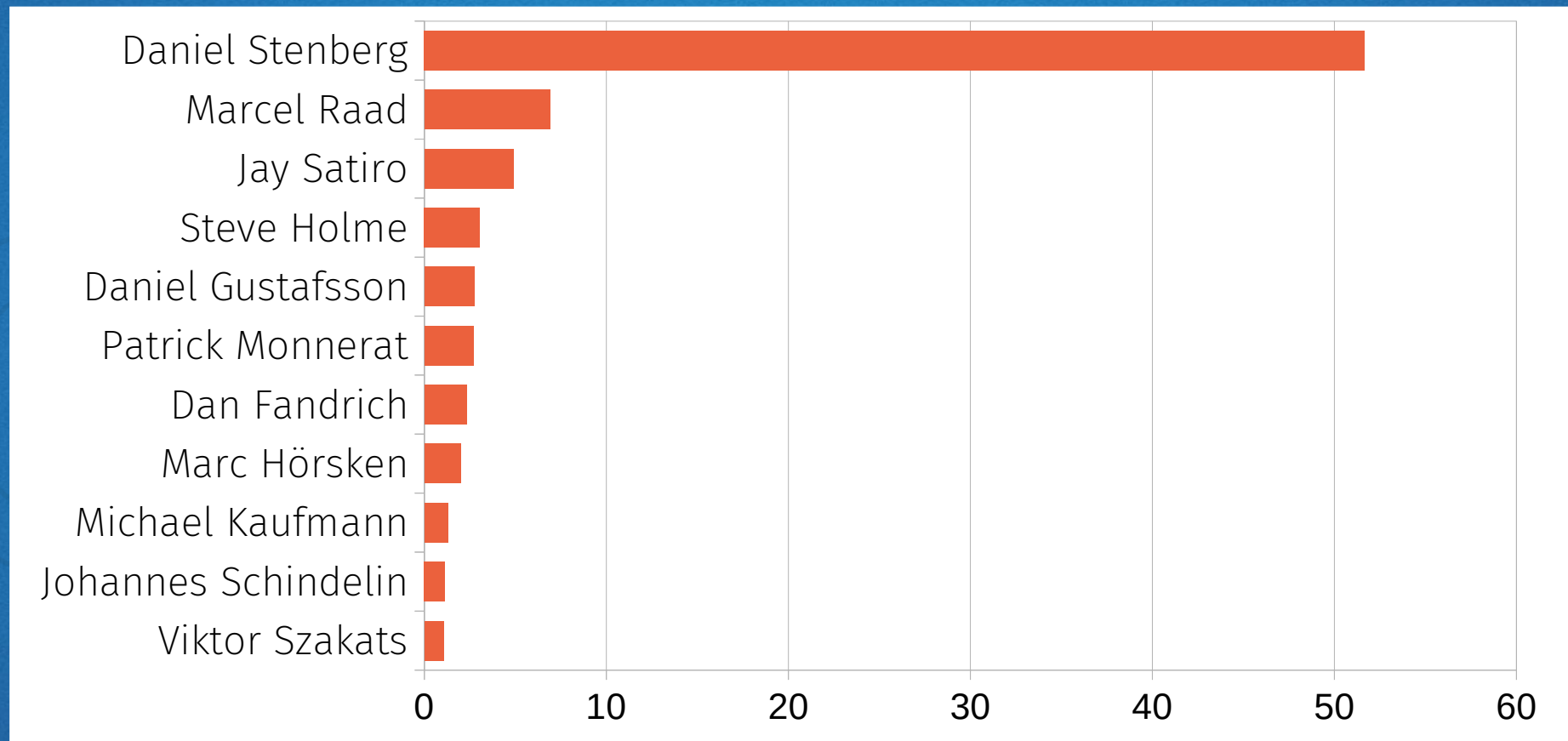


# Monthly first time authors



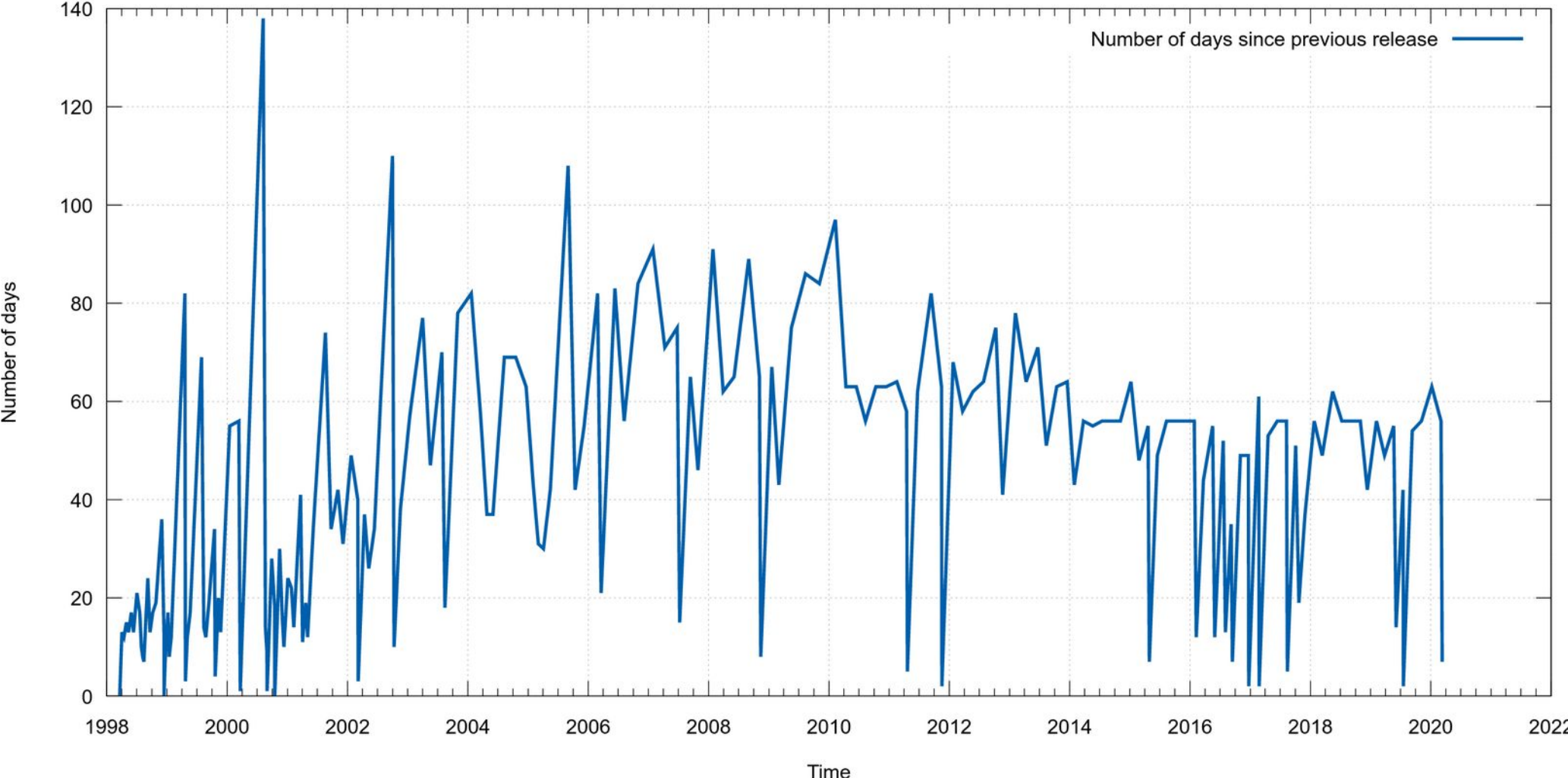


# Top-11 commit authors since 1 Jan 2017



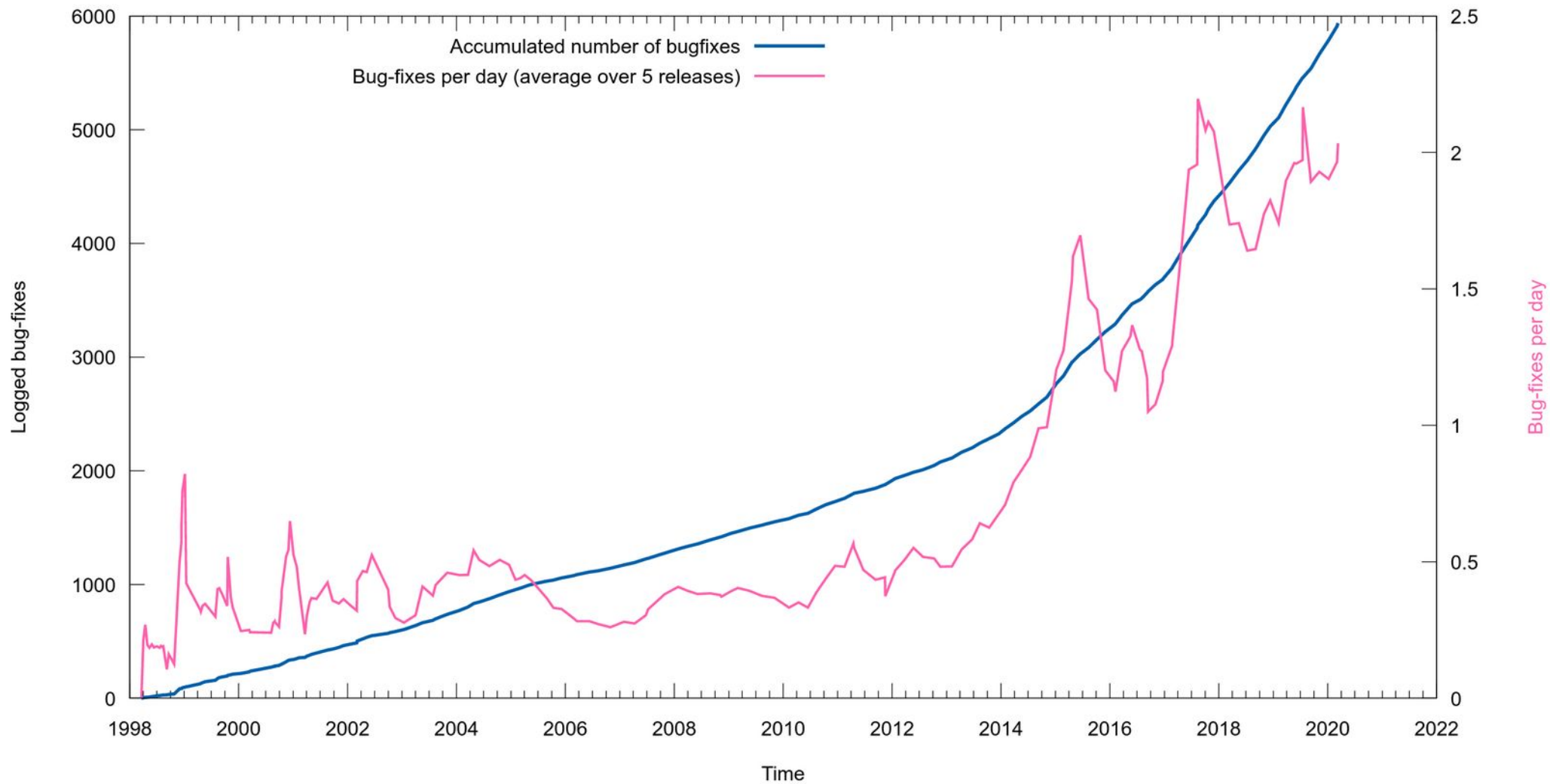
# Releases

# Days between releases



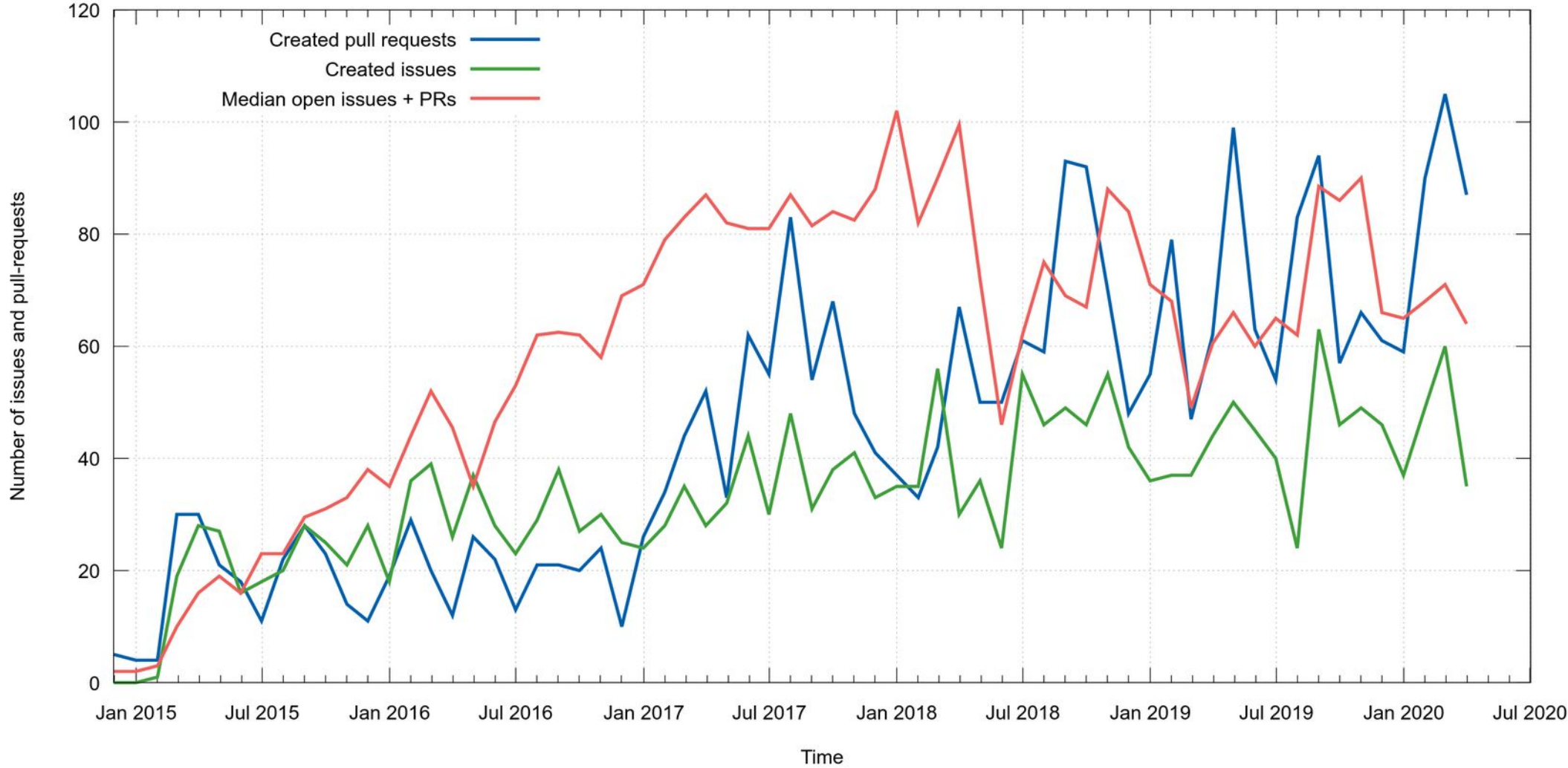
# Bug-fixes

@bagder



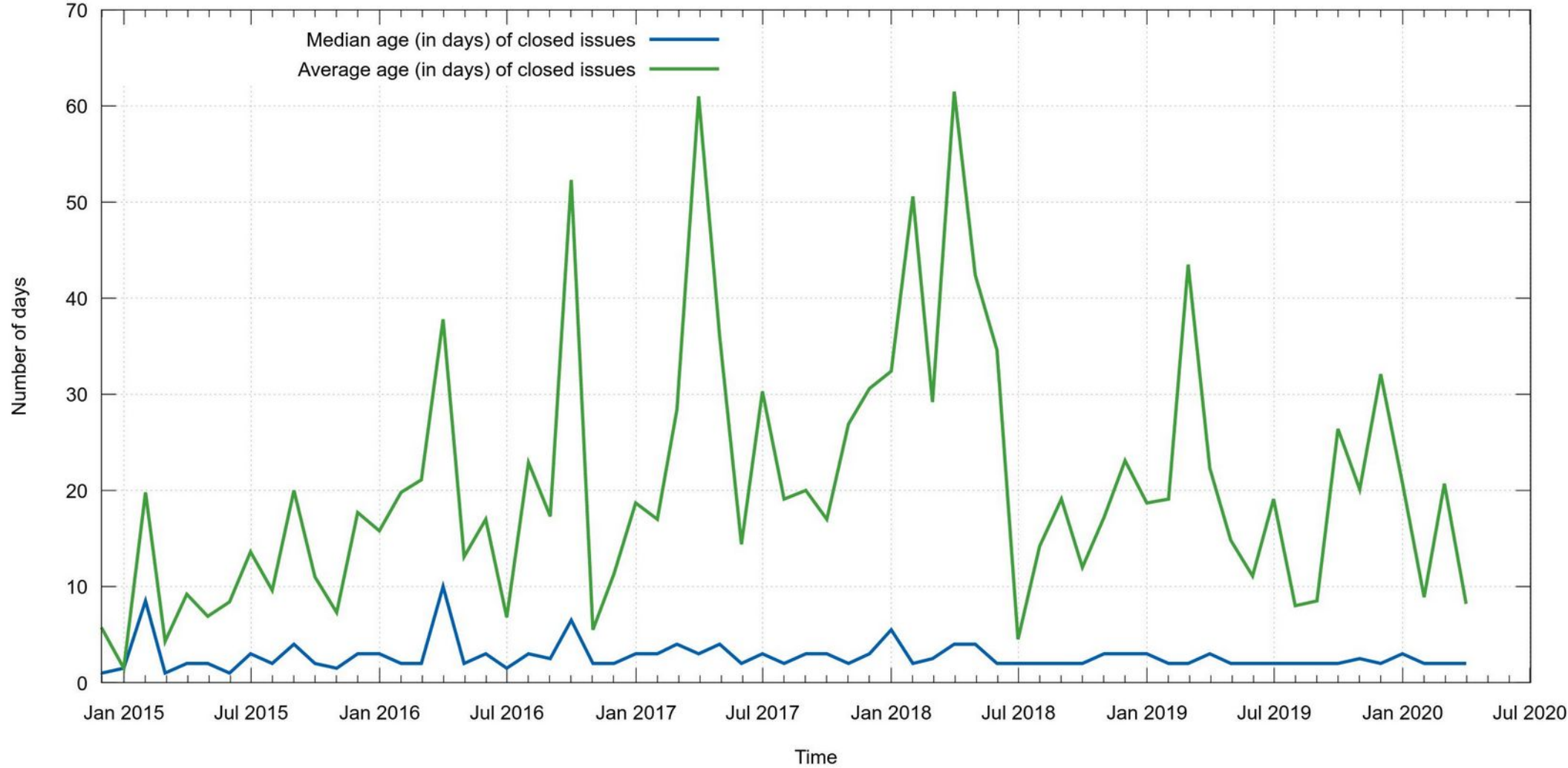
# Activity

# Monthly issue activity in github/curl/curl

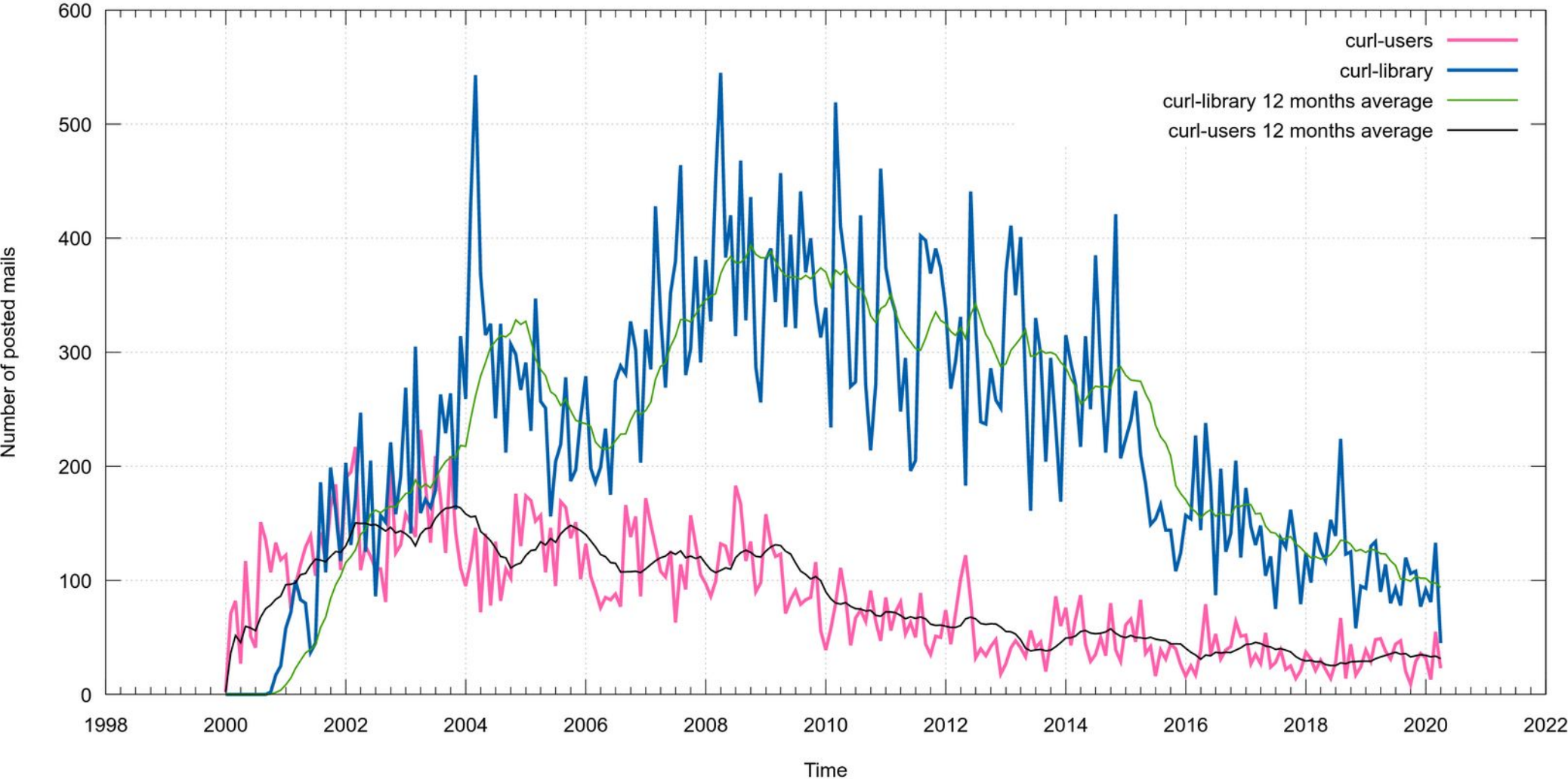


# Github issue ages per month in github/curl/curl

@bagder



# Mailing list posts per month

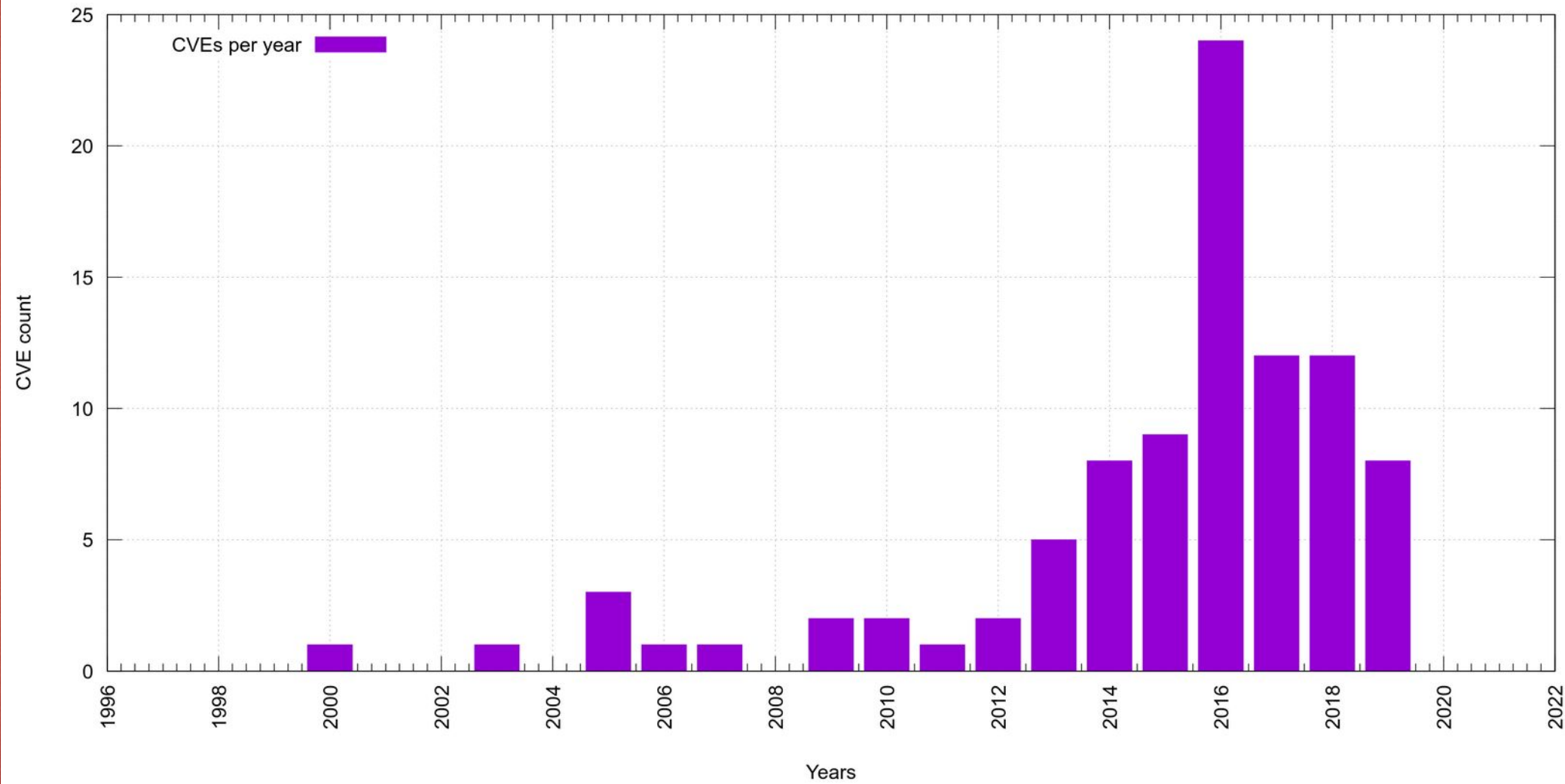




# Vulnerabilities

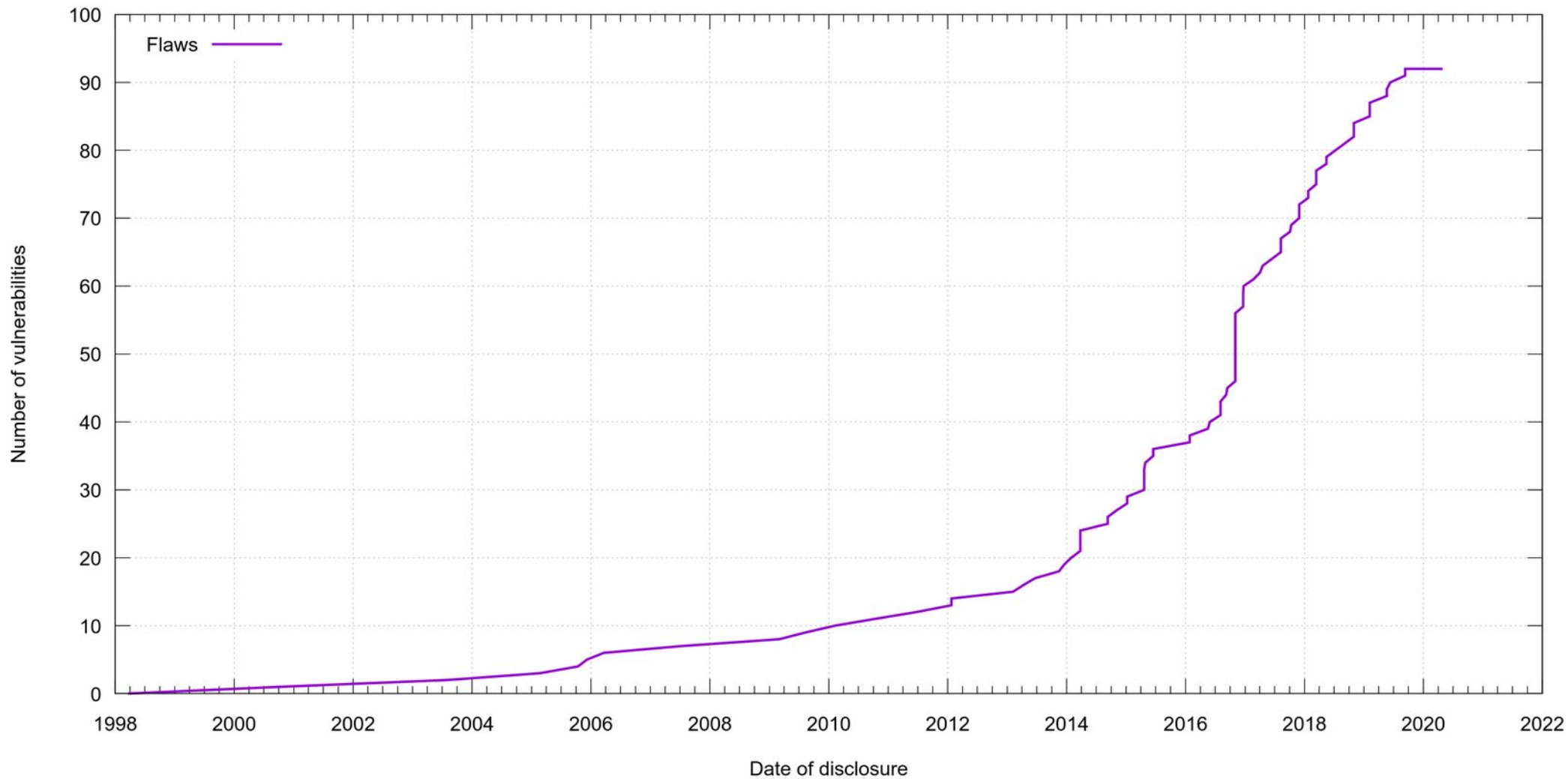
# CVEs per year

@bagder

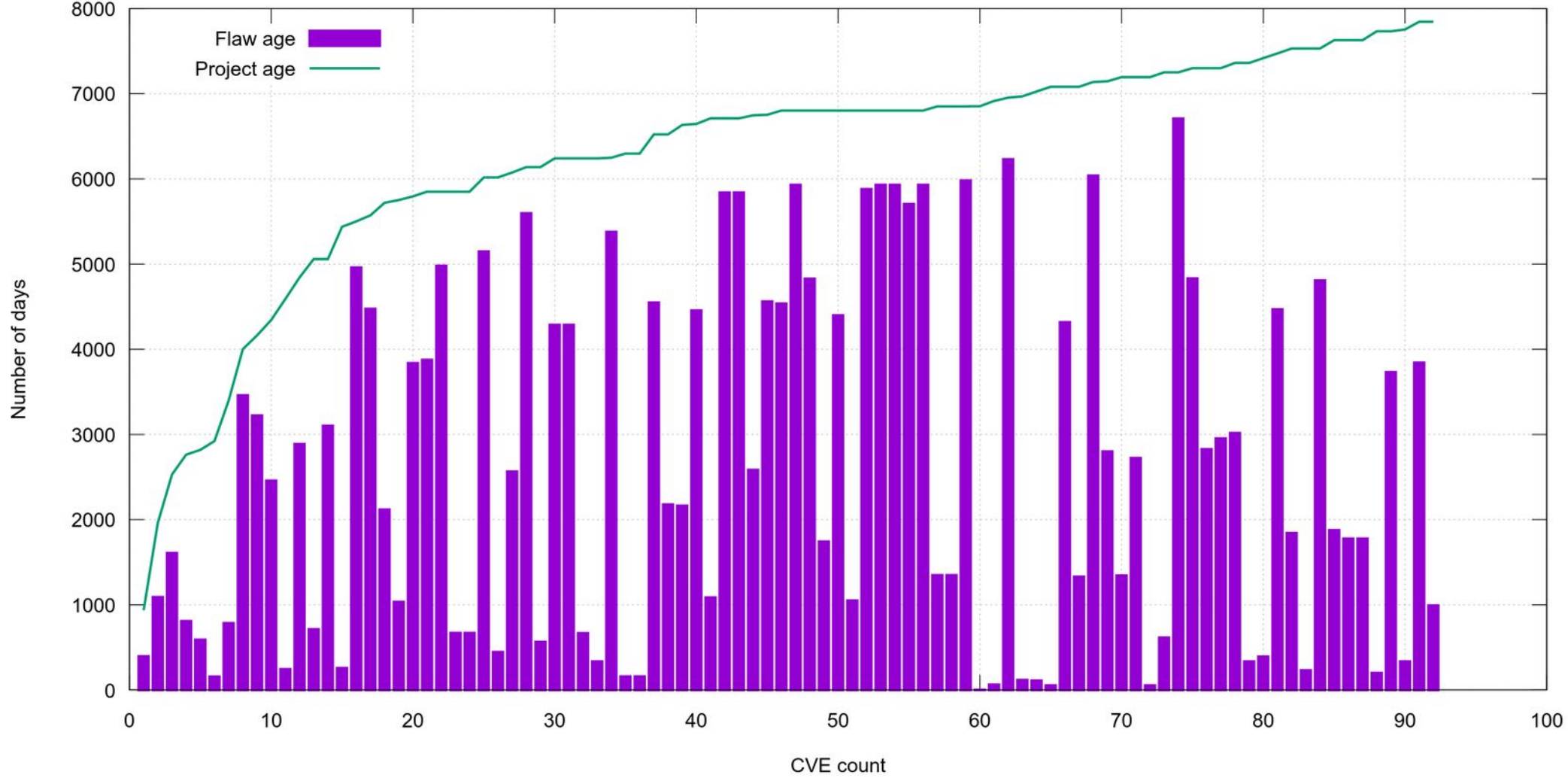


# Announced and fixed CVEs

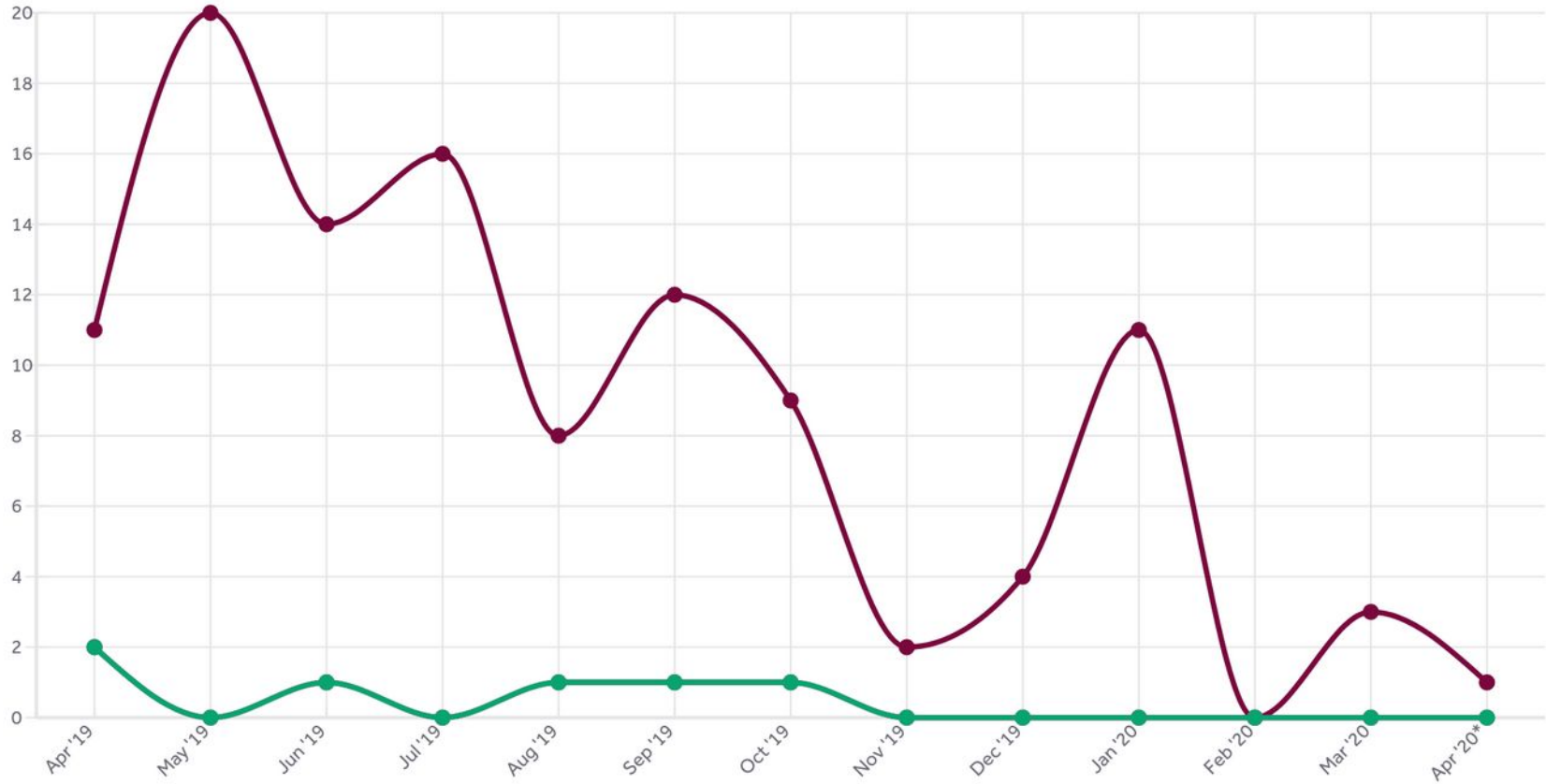
@bagder



# Time each CVE existed



# Bug bounty submissions



# Bug bounty stats

Total Submissions: 112

Reports Rewarded: 6

Total Bounties: \$1,400

Average Bounty: \$233

Average Response Time: an hour

Average Triage Time: a day

Average Bounty Time: 10 days

Average Resolution Time: 19 days

# Lessons from past vulnerabilities

Integer overflows are tricky things. Mitigations: saferealloc, limited string lengths. More: dynbuf (PR #5300)

Flaws linger in the code a long time until detected

Fuzzing is king

Fixing the flaws is usually straight-forward

Raising the bounties

# The users' view



# Annual user survey

What is used, what is ignored

What is good, what is bad

What should be added, what should be removed

How are we doing

# User survey 2020

Mid May time frame

Very much interested in feedback on where to take it and what to ask for

Received 732 responses 2019 (up 9%)

<https://daniel.haxx.se/media/curl-user-poll-2019-analysis.pdf>

# Web site traffic 2020 (April 19 to April 20)

Fastly makes our lives easier

2.1 million requests/day (up from 1.5 million)

53.1 TB the last 12 months (up 27% from 41.6 last period)

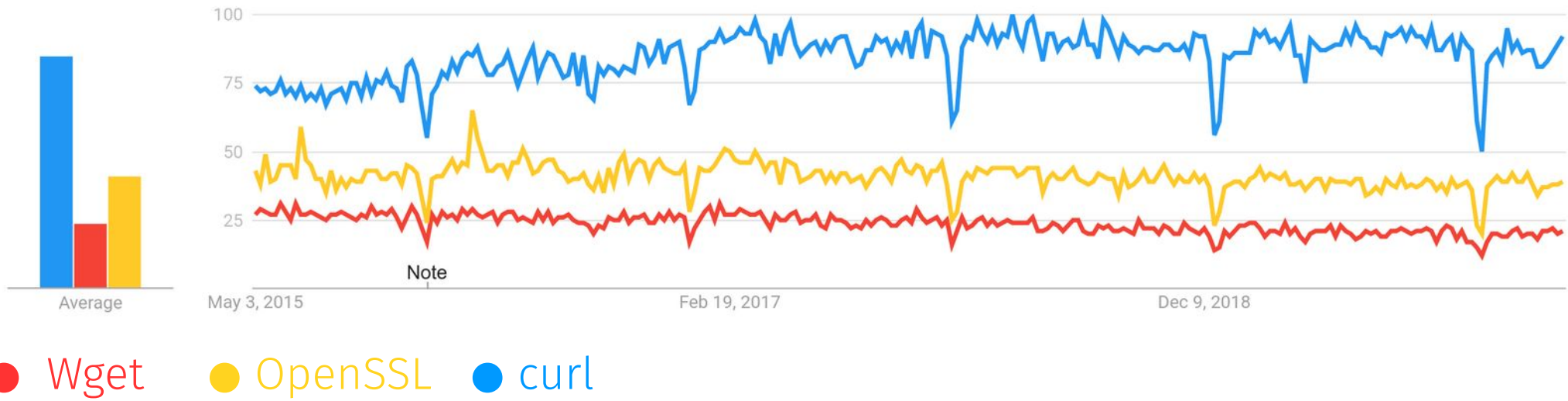
Fast web site, close to most users

No logs, no tracking, very little stats

Did I mention Fastly is good?



# Google trends 5-year span, worldwide



Includes wget and OpenSSL to provide references with similar projects

# CII Best Practices

Unchanged status since last year

<https://bestpractices.coreinfrastructure.org/en/projects/63>

100% passing  cii best practices  passing

96% Silver   
26% Gold

*“SHOULD have a legal mechanism where all developers of non-trivial amounts of project software assert that they are legally authorized to make these contributions”*



# Everyone uses curl

Apps: Youtube, Instagram, Skype, Spotify, ...

OS: iOS, macOS, Windows, Linux, ChromeOS, AOSP, ...

Cars: 22 top brands. Mercedes, BMW, Toyota, Nissan, Volkswagen, ...

Game consoles: PS4, Nintendo Switch, ...

Games: Fortnite, Red Dead Redemption 2, Spider Man, ...

**Estimate: 10 billion installations**

# Money

# Finances and sponsors

curl is not a legal entity

Open Collective holds our funds

Daniel is employed by wolfSSL

wolfSSL offers commercial curl  
services



# wolfSSL



# Expense sponsors

Server hosting: Haxx

Server bandwidth: Fastly

CI services: Teamviewer,  
Travis, Azure Pipelines



Travis CI



TeamViewer

Azure Pipelines

**Gold sponsor**



elastic



# Silver sponsors



# Major single-shot donors 2019-2020

Uffizicloud: 1,300 USD



Comcast: 5,000 USD



Indeed: 10,000 USD

COMCAST

Backblaze: 15,600 USD



BACKBLAZE

# **Many smaller donors**

*189 individuals and 85  
organizations have contributed*

(April 28, 2020)

# Balance

Balance as of April 28, 2020:

**\$54,147.07 USD**

# Expenses without direct sponsors

Bug bounty – started carefully, will increase

curl up – wanted to sponsor travel/lodging this year

Stickers – getting and shipping merchandise

More?

**Done the last 12 months**



**850 bug-fixes**  
**25 changes**  
**three CVEs**

# ~~Deprecated~~ Removed

CURLOPT\_DNS\_USE\_GLOBAL\_CACHE

HTTP Pipelining

PolarSSL

# libcurl options

CURLOPT\_MAXAGE\_CONN

CURLINFO\_RETRY\_AFTER

CURLOPT\_SASL\_AUTHZID

CURLMOPT\_MAX\_CONCURRENT\_STREAMS

CURLOPT\_MAIL\_RCPT\_ALLOWFAILS

CURLSSLOPT\_NO\_PARTIALCHAIN

# News in libcurl

HTTP3 support with two backends

curl\_multi\_poll: waits more

curl\_multi\_wakeup(): wake up libcurl

BearSSL: new TLS backend

wolfSSH: new SSH backend

tiny-curl

MQTT

# Improved in libcurl

CURLU\_NO\_AUTHORITY allows empty authority/host part

XFERINFOFUNCTION: supports

CURL\_PROGRESSFUNC\_CONTINUE

non-blocking SOCKS connects

# Command line tool

parallel transfers with -Z

--parallel-max and --parallel-immediate

--no-progress-meter

--etag-compare and --etag-save

--mail-rcpt-allowfails

%{json} in --write-out

# Test suite

better Windows support

SOCKS server

dynamic server ports

preprocessed test cases

random skip for torture testing

More and better CI

## Other news

**web site:** Reporting documentation bugs in curl got easier, dashboard, curl/stats

The hackerone **bug bounty**

“**libcurl**” - the Google-announced “competitor” in June 2019 (then abandoned again)

**Mr Robot** curls in Dec 2019



```

13 os.system('curl -i -k -X POST -b "MMUFX3Xm0D9ce4EDmJ3AmRxx.j3kz47H1a9Pj1V77H"
14
15 def coinsCoins():
16     print("print("**Cleaning Coins through Crypto Tumbler**")
17
18     with open("gds.txt", "w") as f:
19         sys.stdout = f
20         out = subprocess.check_output(["curl", "-s", "-k", "-X", "POST", "-b", "MMUFX3Xm0D9ce4EDmJ3AmRxx.j3kz47H1a9Pj1V77H"])
21         print out
22         print(out)
23
24     for line in open('gds.txt'):
25         match = re.search('New Wallet Address:(\d+)', line)
26
27
28
29
30
31 def main():
32     coinsConversion()
33     cleanCoins()
34
35 if __name__ == "__main__":
36     main()

```

Screenshot from Mr Robot season 4, episode 8



# Less good (compared with 2019)

Flaky tests/CI

still

Slow CI tests

better

Vulnerabilities are still reported

much better

Still regressions, but less frequently?

still

Could use more people who stick around

always



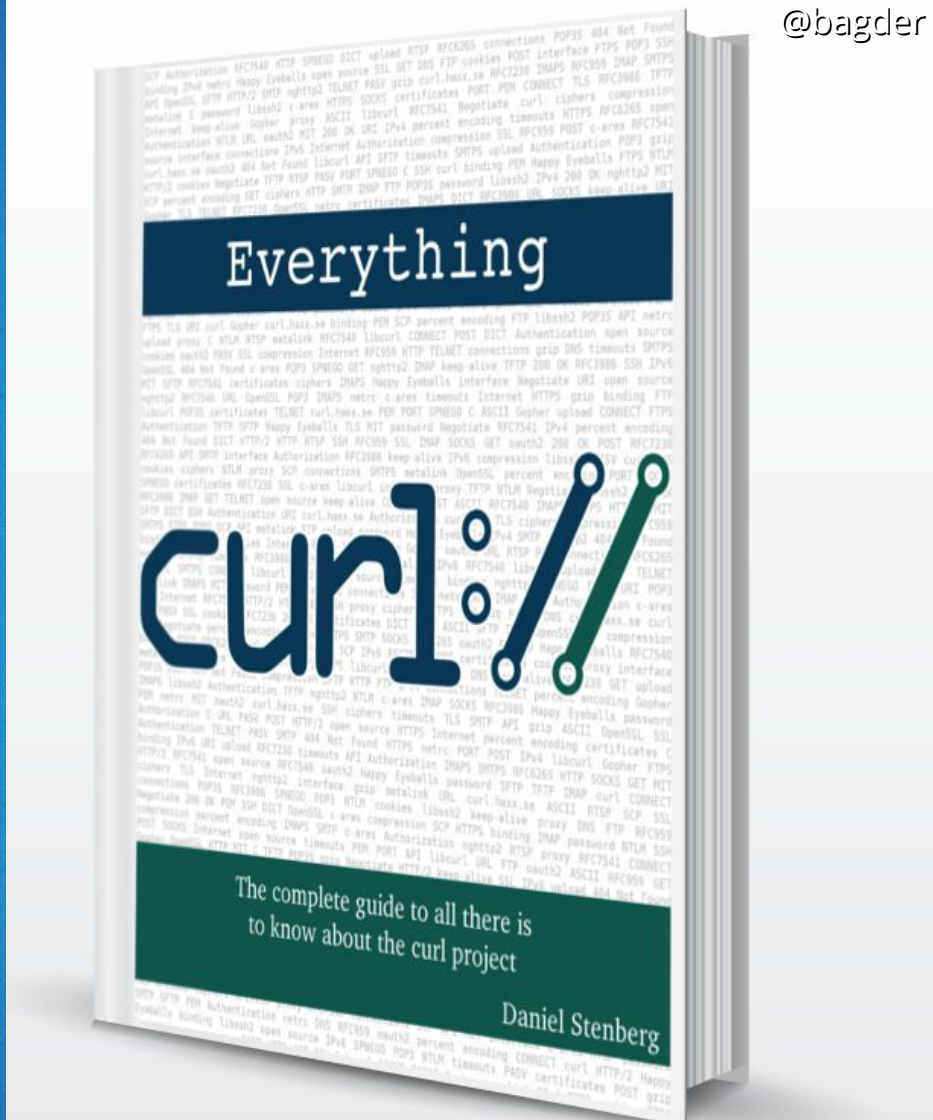
# Everything curl

71K words, 10K lines

Only web + PDF now

“95.3% complete”

<https://ec.haxx.se/>



@bagder

# My (Daniel's) role

# I'm having fun

I love being able to work full-time with “my baby”

I intend to continue driving and pushing forward. I can't promise I'll do this forever, but I can't see me “stepping down” anytime soon

I aim to keep doing curl full-time; meaning charging companies for support, features, help, anything – for wolfSSL

Me as an individual, the open source project and the company wolfSSL – three separate components with (hopefully) aligned goals.

I trust someone will tell me if I fail to keep things apart appropriately.

# What I think I do here

I help keeping **the vision** – what curl and libcurl *should* do

I do curl **development** and fix problems – for fun and for customers

I **support users** and developers experiencing problems or bugs.

I **review code** and suggestions

I'm **guiding the architecture** of existing and future features

I **document how things work** and should work internally. If I get run over by a bus tomorrow, everything needed to know about curl should already be put in files.

I try to **inform project members** and “the outside world” about news and things we work on. To drive interest, get feedback and trick more people into helping out

I aim to **master the protocols** curl works with

I **admin and host** the web site, mailing list and random services

I often serve as a “**public face**” for the project. It is sometimes said to be “mine”

I **talk** about and “market” the project in many places and ways

# Future



# Planning

I can't tell what "we" will do

I have some ideas about what to do next

Things change all time time

Tell us what *you* want!



# Version 8

Release every 56 days

7.71.0 is coming in June 2020

A bump in every release gives us  $29 * 56 = 1624$  days until version 7.100

I want to avoid reaching 7.100 due to confusions it'll create

1624 days == 4 years and 6 months == December 2024

Evolutionary, not revolutionary?

# TODO for libcurl?

I have a **personal list** of things I want to work on

I hope to do more curl **work for hire**

What do *you* **want** to see?

# Talk to us!

I'm **@bagder** on Twitter

We're in **#curl** on Freenode IRC

File **bug reports**:

<https://github.com/curl/curl/issues>

Submit **pull-requests**:

<https://github.com/curl/curl/pulls>

Mailing lists:

**curl-users** for command line tool questions and support

**curl-library** for libcurl users, development, debugging, architecture, new stuff.

<https://curl.haxx.se/mail/>

# Finally

I hope we'll have a "real" curl up again in 2021 –  
somewhere in Europe

